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Karami pledges to support resistance

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Prime Minister Rashid Karami repeated on Tuesday that the Lebanese government supports resistance attacks against the Israeli occupation forces in South Lebanon, as another ambush in the occupied south reportedly killed four Israeli soldiers. Mr. Karami told members of the Lebanese press syndicate that "we support the national resistance," referring to commandos who have been attacking the Israelis almost daily in South Lebanon. Lebanese state radio reported that four Israeli soldiers were killed and several were injured in a bomb blast in the village of Bint Jbeil, four kilometres north of the Israeli-Lebanese border on Tuesday. The radio said commandos set off the roadside bomb as an Israeli army truck drove by. Mr. Karami also said that a weekly cabinet session on Wednesday would take place as planned despite a boycott threat by Nabih Berri, a minister and leader of the Shiite leader movement.

New Palestine chief assails Berri, Jouberti, page 2

Jordan Times

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Hernu due in Amman on Saturday

AMMAN (Petra) — French Defence Minister Charles Hernu is due in Amman on Saturday for a three-day visit to Jordan. He will hold talks with senior Jordanian officials and Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and will tour a number of military positions and tourist sites in the country.

Fahd replaces air force chief

RIYADH (R) — King Fahd of Saudi Arabia Tuesday appointed a new air force commander to replace General Muhammad Sabri, the Saudi Press Agency said. It named the new commander as Lieutenant-General Abdullah Al Hamdan and said Gen. Sabri will now be an adviser to Defence and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan Ibn Abdul Aziz who recommended his replacement.

Gromyko receives Egyptian envoy

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko Tuesday formally received newly-appointed Egyptian Ambassador Salah Basayoni, following July's announcement of a return to full diplomatic relations after a gap of three years. The Soviet news agency TASS said Mr. Gromyko and Mr. Basayoni discussed international and bilateral relations, but gave no details.

Pakistani foreign minister in Iran

LONDON (R) — Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan arrived in Tehran Tuesday for talks on regional issues concerning Pakistan and Iran, the Iranian news agency, IRNA, received in London, reported. Before leaving Pakistan, Mr. Khan said he would brief Iranian officials on the latest round of U.N.-sponsored indirect talks he had with Afghan Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost in Geneva last month.

Pakistani opposition meets in secret

LAHORE, Pakistan (R) — Pakistan's main opposition alliance began a two-day meeting in secret in Lahore Tuesday after the military government barred several politicians from attending. Opposition sources said. They said the meeting of the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD), grouping 11 of the country's banned political parties, would discuss President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq's plans to hold national elections by next March. The sources said representatives of the MRD's member parties, including the Pakistan People's Party of executed former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, were meeting secretly to avoid arrest. Political activity has been banned in Pakistan since 1979.

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Shamir's party clears way for Israeli cabinet

TEL AVIV (AP) — Outgoing Prime Minister, Yitzhak Shamir's Herut Party endorsed an agreement for bipartisan rule with the rival Labour Party Tuesday, clearing the way for premier-designate Shimon Peres to present his cabinet to parliament.

Mr. Shamir beat back a challenge to his authority from former Defence Minister Ariel Sharon, who appealed a hand vote approving Herut cabinet members, including Mr. Sharon as industry and trade minister. Mr. Sharon said Mr. Shamir should have submitted the list of candidates for ministerial posts to the Herut Party first.

His complaint threw the meeting into a confused uproar and it was adjourned suddenly without a second vote.

But Mordechai Zipori, a member of the Herut secretariat, said the vote for cabinet minister in effect endorsed the agreement for bipartisan rule.

"The vote was for the proposal and the candidates as a package,"

Mr. Zipori said. Mr. Shamir and Mr. Peres were to meet once more to iron out the last problem — future policy on Jewish settlements in the occupied West Bank — and to sign the accord.

The agreement would end seven weeks of political uncertainty after the inconclusive elections July 23 which left both big tries too weak to stitch together a ruling coalition without the other.

Parliament was expected to approve the "national unity" agreement Wednesday.

Earlier, Mr. Sharon, in a surprisingly tough speech attacking the Labour Party, urged Mr. Shamir to press for more last-minute concessions from Mr. Peres in a joint policy on settlements.

"We will not go into a unity government if settlements cannot be established in Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip," he said, referring to Jewish names for the heartland of the occupied West Bank.

"If these problems are not resolved, it may take another day. There is no reason to hurry. There is no need to present the government tomorrow. We must not give up on any principle," he said.

Mr. Peres said Labour will use its veto in the cabinet to block or delay the construction of new settlements, which it believes will impose more burdens on peace talks.

Mr. Sharon was ousted from the Defence Ministry post in February 1983 after an investigating panel found him indirectly responsible for the massacre of hundreds of Palestinian refugees near Beirut in September. Mr. Peres drew sharp criticism from his party for his decision to give in and permit Mr. Sharon to take a cabinet post.

(Continued on page 3)

Kuwait criticises U.S. veto

KUWAIT (Agencies) — Kuwait criticised Tuesday the recent U.S. veto at the U.N. Security Council against a Lebanese draft resolution condemning the practices of the Israeli occupation forces in southern Lebanon and said it reflected an American bias against the Arabs.

After a cabinet session in which the U.S. veto was discussed, a government spokesman told reporters the American stand at the Security Council "clearly expresses U.S. biased policy against the Arab peoples."

"The American stand supports and condones all Israeli violations as the United States was the only country which opposed the draft resolution against world consensus," the spokesman said.

"The council of ministers expresses its regret over the American stand which encourages Israel to go ahead with its policy in vio-

lation of international laws and norms," he added.

Arafat in Kuwait

Meanwhile, Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat held talks Tuesday with the Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah and Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah.

No statement was made after the meetings, but government sources said Mr. Arafat briefed the Emir and Sheikh Sabah on the latest developments on the Palestinian arena as well as efforts exerted to bring about an end to the four-year-old Iran-Iraq war.

Mr. Arafat arrived in Kuwait from Baghdad where he held talks with Iraqi President Saddam Hus-

sein. Mr. Arafat told reporters upon arrival that his tour was aimed at "following up the current developments in the region, particularly the outcome of efforts by the Islamic goodwill mission and the non-aligned bloc of nations to end the Iran-Iraq war."

Answering a question on his rift with Syria, Mr. Arafat said "we are ready to open a new chapter in our relations with Syria because we have enough enemies."

Mr. Arafat called on the Arab Nations to confront what he described as "U.S. President Ronald Reagan's challenge to the security and interests of the Arab Nation."

Mr. Arafat also said that the meeting of the Palestine National Council (PNC), the highest decision-making body in the PLO, would be held in Algiers as planned.

PNC will meet at Sea if needed, Abu Iyad says, page 2

Syrian minister warns Israel against using nuclear weapons

BONN (Agencies) — Syria is ready to retaliate in kind if Israel should use nuclear weapons against Syria, Syrian Defence Minister Mustafa Tlas has told the West German magazine Der Spiegel.

The Soviet Union had guaranteed to supply Syria with nuclear weapons if Israel should launch a nuclear strike against Damascus, he said in a recent interview.

Mr. Tlas said Syria was building one of the strongest armies in the world and Israel would have no chance to best Syria in a conventional or nuclear war.

"If a war breaks out we can mobilise one million soldiers," he said. "Our struggle against Israel will continue as long as our women give us children and the Soviet

Union supplies us with weapons." He said Syrian troops had not suffered a defeat in Lebanon but acknowledged that Israel had an edge over Syria because Israeli forces had better electronic equipment.

"But things are different now," he said. Syria had new missiles which enabled it to shoot down Israeli planes over Beirut from within Syrian territory, he said.

"We are convinced that Israel has nuclear weapons at its disposal. The Americans have paved the way for the Israelis. They work together very closely on atomic technology," Mr. Tlas was quoted as saying.

If Israel should deploy nuclear weapons, Mr. Tlas added, "the Soviet Union has assured us that under such circumstances that it

will place atomic weapons at our disposal capable of responding to a devastating blow."

He was quoted as saying Syria could deploy "surface-to-surface or air-to-surface rockets."

Asked whether Syria or the Soviet Union would lead such a retaliatory attack, Mr. Tlas was quoted as saying, "We would strike back at the Israelis, not the Russians."

Mr. Tlas said he still considered the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) an important political force in the Middle East. But it would have to find the "right way" and stop "depending on the United States for help," he said.

The Palestinians should realise that they could never reach their political and military goals without the help of Syria, he said.

Egypt, other Arab states at odds over Camp David in Malta meeting

VALETTA (R) — Ministers of 10 non-aligned members tried to end a row Tuesday between Egypt and other Arab states over a Syrian-sponsored resolution attacking the Camp David accords between Egypt and Israel, delegates said.

The rift broke the harmony prevailing since delegates from nine Mediterranean states and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) began meeting Monday. A senior Egyptian delegate said the situation was "near deadlock."

All other Arab delegations present rallied behind the Syrian proposal, delegates said. Assistant Secretary-General of the Arab League Adnan Omran, attending as an observer, told Reuters that the proposed resolution was a "minimum."

"It's our obligation to put forth

an Arab position," he said. "You cannot condemn Israeli aggression without mentioning Camp David."

A draft resolution approved by officials before the ministers met condemned the "strategic alliance between Israel and the United States of America" but made no specific mention of Camp David or Egypt's treaty with the Jewish state.

Malta, Yugoslavia, and Cyprus supported Egypt's view that the final communiqué should remain general, delegates said.

Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Maguid said Monday he foresaw no attempt to isolate his country.

The Syrian initiative surprised non-Arab conference delegates

who expected swift adoption Tuesday of a moderately worded communiqué attacking superpower military activities in the Mediterranean.

The 1983 non-aligned summit in New Delhi compromised by condemning "separate peace treaties" with Israel. Egypt does not consider the Camp David accords a separate peace.

The draft communiqué attacks foreign naval deployments in "which directly or indirectly threaten the interests of non-aligned members" and calls for a nuclear-free Mediterranean.

A Libyan-backed attack on U.S. "aggression" in the disputed Gulf of Sidra was considered but dropped from the draft, delegates said.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, and leaders of liberal parties in Europe and the Arab World listen to a briefing on the Jordan Valley Tuesday (Petra photo)

Hassan briefs liberal leaders on Israel's settlement policy

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Tuesday briefed leaders of liberal parties in Europe and the Arab World on Israel's settlement policies in the occupied Arab territories.

The liberal leaders, participants of a two-day Arab-Liberal International meeting which opened on Monday, were briefed by the Regent during a tour they made of the Jordan Valley. With the help of maps, Prince Hassan gave a detailed explanation of Israel's policy of setting up Jewish settlements in the occupied West Bank and Gaza and said the Jewish state aims at Judaizing the occupied territories and evicting the Palestinian people from their homeland.

Jordan Valley Authority President Munther Haddadin also briefed the liberal leaders on various development projects in the Jordan Valley.

The Crown Prince also hosted a

lunch in honour of the liberal leaders in the Jordan Valley.

The Arab-Liberal International meeting concluded its meetings Tuesday evening.

The Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said during the closed door meetings the liberal activists discussed various papers submitted by the delegates. Petra said the conferees agreed that the pressing issue of the Middle East is a lasting solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict and called for the restoration of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people including self-determination. They also said that every state in the Middle East should have the right to live within secure and internationally recognised boundaries.

Earlier Tuesday, Prime Minister Ahmad Obaidat received Iceland's Prime Minister Steingrímur Hermannsson, one of the participants in the conference. The meeting between Mr. Obaidat and the Icelandic premier was at-

ended by Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri, Petra, said.

On Monday, the meeting discussed problems of the Middle East including a paper on "Occupation as a Threat to Peace," and a paper on "Prospects of a Peaceful Settlement of the Arab-Israeli Conflict." Prince Hassan, who inaugurated the conference and delivered a speech at the opening session (See page 5), later hosted a dinner banquet to honour the participants who represented liberals in the Arab World and Europe.

The European delegates are scheduled to leave Amman Wednesday for a Liberal International meeting to be held in Tel Aviv. Resolutions are expected to result from these meetings, one participant said, "but they aim at creating a minimum level of objective and independent understanding between liberals and moderates in the world."

Dollar breaks 3-Deutsche mark level

FRANKFURT, West Germany (R) — The U.S. dollar was fixed above three marks in Frankfurt Tuesday for the first time in the history of floating exchange rates.

But foreign exchange markets still fought shy of marking the currency firmly above the psychologically important hurdle.

The dollar was set at 3.0048 marks at the daily fixing, at which an official exchange rate is agreed upon, reflecting supply and demand.

This was sharply up on Monday's 2.9860 and the highest since Feb. 9, 1973, when it was worth 3.15 marks under the system of fixed exchange rate parities which ended on March 19 of that year.

But in afternoon trading it eased again as U.S. markets opened, briefly falling as low as 2.9945 marks before recovering to roughly three-mark parity.

Foreign exchange traders predicted no major short-term fall in the dollar against European currencies.

In Paris, it set a fifth consecutive record at the fix, reaching 9.2295 francs, but in London sterling was above record lows, holding at around \$12.757 as operators anticipated Bank of England intervention to prevent it moving further down.

The mark has borne the brunt of the dollar's latest surge, but dealers and economists all point to the

benefits the higher dollar can bring to German exports, and shares on the Frankfurt bourse were marked sharply higher.

"The firm dollar helps us more than it harms us," one West German currency dealer here said.

Dealers say the dollar's inexorable rise defies fundamental economic explanation, ignoring easing U.S. interest rates and pushed over higher by a feeling that economic growth will continue strong if President Reagan is re-elected in November as widely expected.

Some dealers see the dollar finally reaching a peak between 3.05 and 3.20 marks.

Sunken freighter splits in half

OSTEND, Belgium (R) — The sunken French freighter Mont Louis has split in two and strong winds were preventing divers from retrieving its cargo of nuclear material, Belgian officials said Tuesday.

They said however that the winds of up to 65 kilometres an hour were helping to break up oil slicks, and the wider gap in the hull would make it easier to explore inside the vessel once the weather eased.

Belgian Prime Minister Wilfried Martens said the splitting apart of the vessel did not mean there was any risk of radioactive or chemical pollution from the cargo of 30 containers of highly toxic but only mildly radioactive uranium hexafluoride.

"The containers have been tested. They are safe. There is no danger," Mr. Martens said after attending an emergency meeting of government officials and salvage experts.

A member of the Greenpeace, environmental organisation who boarded a pontoon moored near the wreck said there was a gap at the top of the boat of about six metres.

Hurd takes over N.Ireland troubles

LONDON (R) — Britain's new troubleshooter for Northern Ireland, former diplomat Douglas Hurd, Tuesday flew to the province to take charge in the face of hostility, suspicion and scepticism from local politicians.

They voiced reservations that 54-year-old Hurd was up to the job of healing sectarian divisions in the province where violence has claimed 2,400 lives in the last 15 years.

He stepped into the hottest seat in British politics when Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher Monday chose him to replace James Prior as the cabinet minister for Northern Ireland.

Just hours before he headed for the province to meet senior government officials and security chiefs, a policeman was shot and wounded by gunmen in the second-biggest city, Londonderry.

Mr. Hurd, who served four years as a Foreign Office minister, is the third man entrusted by Mrs. Thatcher to try to bring peace to the strife-torn province since she came to power in 1979.

Preacher-politician Ian Paisley, one of the most influential Protestant voices in the province, said he doubted Mr. Hurd was tough enough for the job.

Sinn Féin member of Par-

Iraqis hit Norwegian oil tanker near Kharg

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraq said Tuesday its war planes hit two "naval targets" south of the Iranian oil terminal at Kharg Island and a Librarian-registered vessel was reportedly damaged in the attack.

There was no confirmation of the second hit but shipping sources speculated the target could have been an Iranian vessel which might not have raised a distress call.

Shipping sources quoted by Reuters said the Norwegian-owned Saint Tobias, 250,500 deadweight tonnes, was hit in a starboard ballast tank after loading crude at Kharg.

The sources said the tanker was 80 kilometres due south of Kharg at the time of the attack and was carrying oil bound for Japan.

In Baghdad, a military spokesman was quoted by the Iraqi News Agency (INA) as saying the first target, a very large one, was hit at 12.28 Tuesday (0828 GMT) and the second two minutes later.

All Iraqi jets returned to base safely, the spokesman said.

Iraq said Tuesday it had attacked a "large naval target", its usual term for an oil tanker, south of Kharg. But there was no independent confirmation.

The last confirmed Iraqi missile attack on a tanker was on Aug. 24, when the Cypriot-registered Amethyst was set ablaze.

Iran responded three days later with a rocket attack on the Panamanian-registered Cleo 1.

More than 20 tankers have been confirmed damaged by both sides in the four-year-old Gulf war since Iraq said in late March it had started using French-built Super-Exocet planes equipped with Exocet missiles against tankers using Kharg.

Following Tuesday's reported attack, Iraq's Culture and Information Minister, Latif Nassif Al Jassem, said Iraq would continue its blockade of the Iranian terminal.

"The forthcoming few days will witness a serious development in the process of the blockade," he told a press conference without elaboration.

Mr. Jassem said Iraq is "capable of destroying Kharg Island itself, such an act depends on an Iraqi political decision."

He did not elaborate.

British miners, Coal Board trade charges

EDINBURGH (R) — The British miners' union Tuesday accused the state Coal Board of showing intransigence in their talks on ending a six-month coal strike and said the negotiations faced serious difficulties.

The statement from the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) came during a break in the three-day-old peace talks. It followed a suggestion by the Coal Board that it was the union side which was holding up progress.

"The NUM has put forward certain proposals but so far, due to the board's intransigence, serious difficulties remain," the union statement said. The talks were continuing, it added.

Chairman Ian MacGregor said his team had put forward proposals and the union had responded with what he called impracticable suggestions.

The comments marked a sharpening of the public exchanges over the peace negotiations, but both sides still stressed their determination to keep talking.

Asked during a lunch break whether they were moving towards a breakdown Mr. MacGregor said: "Not that I know of."

Meanwhile the National Union of Railwaymen late Monday night suspended a threatened 24-hour strike on London's rail and subway systems Wednesday for a month.

Workers' Union also called off a shutdown of the British capital's bus service planned for Wednesday. Both walkouts had been called to protest service cutbacks and job losses.

But longshoremen Tuesday took their partial shutdown of the nation's ports into the third week.

The port strike, called Aug. 24 to support the miners, has idled 46 per cent of Britain's seaborne trade, seven per cent more than last week, said Nick Finney, director of the national Association of Port Employers.

But rebel stevedores continued to show up for work, crossing picket lines at Bristol, Swansea and Lymington, port authorities said.

New Falangist leader assails Berri, Junblatt

BEIRUT (R) — The acting president of Lebanon's mostly Christian right-wing Falangist Party has denounced as "irresponsible" the attitudes of two cabinet ministers, Shi'ite leader Nabih Berri and Walid Junblatt.

Mr. Berri and Mr. Junblatt launched separate attacks Sunday on the Falangist Party and the administration of President Amin Gemayel, who was a leading Falangist Party member before his election to the presidency in 1982. Referring to the harshly-worded speeches of Mr. Berri and Mr. Junblatt, Dr. Elie Karam, acting Falangist leader since the death two weeks ago of Pierre Gemayel, told Falangist Radio it was not by such methods that Muslim demands could be achieved. He said the Falangists, who form the bulk of the Falangist "Lebanese Forces" militia, were "ready for confrontation" and "would not yield to pressures."

Khamenei returns to Tehran

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — President Ali Khamenei of Iran returned to Tehran Tuesday after his first foreign trip that took him to Syria, Libya and Algeria. It was reported by the official Iranian news agency, IRNA.

The agency said Mr. Khamenei left Algiers Monday night after concluding his talks with Algerian President Chadli Benjedid.

IRNA quoted Mr. Khamenei as stating in Algiers before his departure that his visit to the three Arab states had been "very successful, we reached all the objectives of this trip."

In addition to his consultations with the Algerian president Mr. Khamenei also conferred with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi during his stopovers in Damascus and Tripoli.

Syria and Libya are the two staunchest Arab supporters of Iran in its four-year-old war against Iraq. Algeria has been pursuing a more even-handed approach and has been active in efforts to persuade the warring sides to settle their differences peacefully.

During his visit to Algiers, Mr. Khamenei also had talks with Mohammed Abdul Aziz, secretary-general of the Polisario Front fighting Morocco for independence of the Western Sahara.

The Algerian news agency APC which reported the meeting gave no details of his topics discussed with Mr. Abdul Aziz who is also president of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic proclaimed by the Polisario in 1976.

with the reopening of the coast road to Israeli frontlines at the Awali River, 38 kilometres south of Beirut.

Mr. Berri also threatened to boycott future cabinet sessions, saying he would only attend ministerial "conferences" dealing with the Israeli-occupied south.

Syria is pursuing its drive to help the Lebanese government extend its control outside Beirut and beat divisions between factions.

Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam Monday telephoned Mr. Berri apparently to persuade him to reconsider his threat to boycott cabinet meetings.

Beirut Radio said they discussed a need to press ahead with Syrian-backed peace efforts by the Lebanese government.

President Gemayel and Syrian President Hafez Al Assad agreed in talks in Damascus last week that the cabinet should hold special meetings to work on reforms giving Muslims more power. Their meeting was believed to have ended weeks of cabinet deadlock over whether reforms or security should come first.

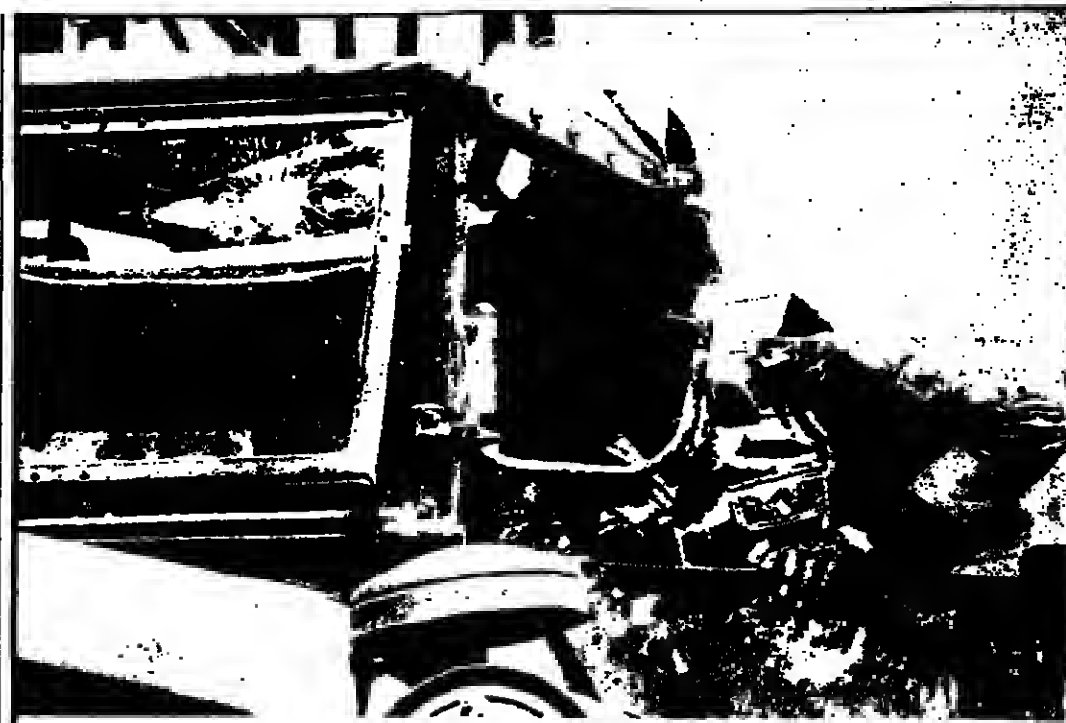
and put Education Minister Selim Hoss in hospital.

"It is not strange for the regime to try and kill Selim Hoss," Mr. Junblatt told a gathering in the mostly Druze village of Kfar Matta, 15 kilometres southeast of Beirut.

Addressing a rally in Beirut's southern suburbs, Mr. Berri said the Lebanese army's intelligence section was behind the blast, which he said was aimed at stirring up "sectarian sedition."

Mr. Hoss, Mr. Berri and Mr. Junblatt all hold office in Prime Minister Rashid Karami's "national unity" government, which has been trying for weeks to extend a security plan to new areas outside Beirut and to introduce political reforms.

Mr. Berri, who is minister for the south, repeated his demand that the security plan must start



CAPTURED ARMY VEHICLE: A Somali soldier Monday inspects an army vehicle which Somalia claims was captured after a recent attack by regular Ethiopian forces on Somali forces. Ethiopia denies that any of its troops have been involved in the border clashes. (AP wirephoto)

Hijacked Iranians fly home from Cairo

LONDON — A group of 52 passengers stranded in Cairo since last weekend's hijacking of an Iran Air Boeing 727 returned to Tehran early Tuesday aboard a Lebanese plane, the official Iranian news agency IRNA, received in London, said.

The Iranian plane, hijacked during a domestic flight, later flew to Iraq, Iran's enemy in the four-year-old Gulf war, with the remaining 70 or so passengers.

The Baghdad government has said it will not return the plane, the third Iranian plane flown to Iraq in two weeks.

PNC will hold session at sea if no Arab country hosts it, Abu Iyad says

TUNIS (R) — A senior Palestinian leader has said that the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) was ready to hold its long-delayed parliament session on a ship at sea if no Arab country would host it.

In a toughly-worded defence of the PLO's right to freedom from Arab tutelage, Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyad) said the PLO's policy-making Palestine National Council (PNC) would meet "despite all the plots against it."

Abu Iyad, number two in PLO chairman Yasser Arafat's mainstream Fatah command group, was speaking at a reception in Tunis. His remarks were carried by the PLO news agency Wafa.

Many PLO officials have said the PNC will meet in Algiers by the end of the month, despite Syria's hostility and threats from Syrian-backed commando groups opposed to Mr. Arafat to retaliate against any factions that attend the proposed session.

"We are now trying to find a spot in the great Arab Nation to hold our PNC," Abu Iyad declared. "If it is hard for us to hold the PNC in this or that Arab capital, then we shall hold it aboard a ship in the Mediterranean."

Abu Iyad did not refer to Algiers, but his comments appeared to back up reports that the PLO is considering other venues to hold

Mengistu heads new party in Ethiopia

ADDIS ABABA (R) — Ethiopian leader Lieutenant-Colonel Mengistu Haile Mariam was elected Monday as secretary-general of the Workers' Party of Ethiopia, the country's first legal political movement.

Vowing "revolutionary Ethiopia or death," Col. Mengistu told rapturous delegates at the end of a five-day congress: "Our faith in Marxism-Leninism is complete."

Six members of the ruling Provisional Military Administrative Council (PMAC) and four civilians were elected full members of the party's politburo.

The PMAC has led Ethiopia on a pro-Soviet course since overthrowing the feudal monarchy of Emperor Haile Selassie 10 years ago this week.

The congress, called to launch the party, elected a 136-member central committee comprising all members of the cabinet, the army

leadership and heads of trade unions, peasants' associations and other mass movements.

Ethiopian officials said the PMAC would be dissolved at a future date and the party would draw up a constitution before the country declared itself a people's republic.

They said a national assembly would be elected in the future, but the timing was unclear. Western officials said there was no doubt that Lt. Col. Mengistu would be president.

Hundreds of Eastern bloc officials and representatives of communist parties were at the congress.

President Hassan Gouled of Djibouti and Ali Nasser Mohammad of South Yemen attended the session. East German leader Erich Honecker is expected here for celebrations starting on Wednesday, the 10th anniversary of Emperor Selassie's overthrow.

Goukouni says he still enjoys support from Libya, Algeria

ALGIERS (Agencies) — Chad rebel leader Goukouni Oueddei says he still has the support of Libya and Algeria, despite the recent union treaty between Libya and Morocco.

Asked at a news conference Monday whether the treaty would affect his alliances, he said: "Goukouni is not rejected by Libya. He is not, at the moment, abandoned by his friends. He enjoys support from his friends both on the Libyan side and the Algerian side."

Mr. Goukouni said he was not demanding that French troops in Chad be withdrawn before national reconciliation talks.

France sent 3,000 troops to Chad a year ago to halt a southward drive by Mr. Goukouni's Libyan-backed troops and prop up the government of President Fisseco Habre.

"We see no inconceivable in the French staying. We are not making it (withdrawal) a precondition," he said.

He said his rebel transitional government of national unity was still willing to go to a reconciliation meeting planned in the Congolese capital, Brazzaville. No date has been set for the proposed meeting.

Meanwhile, Chad has appealed to the international community for "massive and varied food aid in order to save millions of humans in distress."

The appeal was made by Nadjji Yamarke, Chadian secretary of state in charge of food aid management, during a meeting with representatives of international organisations operating in Chad.

Mr. Yamarke spoke of thousands of deaths from hunger or infection, and of a disturbing influx of refugees from stricken country areas to the towns.

Sudanese aide says talks under way with rebels

KHARTOUM (AP) — A senior Sudanese official has disclosed that talks are under way between his government and "extremist" Sudanese rebels in the south, the Sudan Agency said Tuesday.

The agency said Mohammed Abdul Kader Omar, secretary general of the ruling Sudanese Socialist Union, revealed this during an address Sunday at a dinner banquet in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. It said the banquet was hosted by

Saudi officials in honour of Sudanese officials visiting Saudi Arabia for the Muslim pilgrimage.

"A dialogue has started with extremist elements in the south who took up arms against the state," the agency quoted Mr. Omar as saying. He did not give any details.

President Jaafar Numeiri has in recent months repeatedly offered to pardon rebels if they laid down their arms.

Red Sea mines mystery unresolved after 40 days of hunting

By Maurice Guindi
Associated Press

CAIRO — Mine hunters from four Western countries, Egypt and Saudi Arabia have failed to unravel the mystery of Red Sea explosions following more than 40 days of fruitless search, and hopes are dwindling that any mines will be found.

The search is continuing but opinion is divided on when it will be called off. The Americans and Italians were reported forecasting an end in 10 or 15 days while the British, French and Egyptians were saying it will take longer and declining to give target dates.

"No mines have been found," Commodore Ahmad M. Abdul Bary, commander of Egypt's Adabiya Naval Base in the Suez Gulf, told reporters late last week.

The Suez Gulf, the northwestern branch of the Red Sea, was where it all began. Between July 9 and Aug. 13, at least 18 ships were damaged by underwater explosions, the first seven

in the Gulf and the rest in the southern part of the Red Sea, which is 2,335 kilometres long.

In addition to some of Egypt's 12 minesweepers and Saudi Arabia's four minesweepers, a Western task force of 18 ships, seven helicopters and more than 2,600 men joined in scouring the waters of the Red Sea off the coasts of the two Arab countries.

The task force includes three ships, seven mine-hunting Sea Stallion helicopters and 1,456 men from the United States, six ships and 60 men from France, five vessels and about 250 men from Britain, and four ships and 304 men from Italy.

The Egyptians began the search on July 30, the Americans and British on Aug. 17, the French on Aug. 28 and the Italians on Aug. 31.

"They have come up with pipes, oxygen cylinders, oil drums, wire coils, a cupboard, a torpedo and an old bomb dating back to the First World War... but no mines," said Commod. Abdul Bary, whose

base is a major search coordination centre.

Sources from the Western participants said the seabed was littered with coral and "all sorts of refuse" from ships. The British at one point reported finding a lavatory sitting upright on the bottom.

One Western source who declined to be identified further voiced mixed feelings of frustration and bafflement.

"In as much as our very first priority was to ensure the safety of navigation, we are pleased because we have found no mines," he told the Associated Press.

"But we have not succeeded on our next priority: to find a mine and examine it to determine its type and manufacture and, possibly, who laid it," he said.

"It is quite surprising that after several weeks of search, using highly sophisticated equipment, nothing has been found," he added. "We now have doubts about the possibility of locating any mines."

On Aug. 25, the Saudi Arabian Defence Ministry said the search for mines by U.S. and French contingents off its shores had "nearly ended" and no mines were found.

American, British and French sources agreed that if mines are still in the Red Sea, they could be either defective or timed devices lying on the bottom in very deep waters.

Western sources and Egyptian officials believe that the explosions were not caused by surface devices but by mines lying on the seabed or buoyed just above it, way below the surface. They said pressure from ships passing overhead probably triggered the mines.

An American source said examination of some of the damaged ships supported this theory since there were no traces of shrapnel, just "buckling damage."

Commod. Alvin S. Newman, commander of the U.S. task force operating in Egypt and Saudi Arabia, told reporters last month that considering the depth of

water at the sites of most of the explosions and the nature of the damage, the mines appeared to be small — "in the range of 100 to 200 kilograms," he, Egyptians agree.

Lt. Cmdr. Anthony Chilton, commander of the British contingent, said: "It is quite possible that all of the mines have either failed or gone off."

The question persists: who did it?

Egypt has publicly directed its suspicions at Libya and Iran, focusing more on the former. But President Hosni Mubarak and Defence Minister Abdel Halim Abu Ghazala made it clear they had circumstantial evidence but no solid proof. Libya and Iran denied involvement.

At a briefing for local reporters last month, Egyptian Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Ibrahim Al Oraby said Egypt was "almost sure" Libya was responsible. He cited the passage through the Suez Canal both ways of the Libyan roll-over ship Ghat between

July 6 and 26 — a time frame that fitted in with the explosions. He said the Ghat carried mine specialists and was the type of vessel suited for such an operation.

Islamic Jihad, a shadowy pro-Iranian extremist group, has claimed responsibility, saying its guerrillas sowed nearly 100 mines in the Suez Gulf and Red Sea and threatening to do it again.

Egyptian officials took the claim with a grain of salt. But they said that even if an extremist group was responsible, it needed the backing of a state such as Libya or Iran, if only to use one of its vessels.

The British and Italians have been operating in the northern part of the Suez Gulf, the Americans in the central sector and the French in the south.

"We cannot determine the time when each group will finish its work," Commod. Abdul Bary said. He added: "After each group finishes its area, they will be allotted other areas."

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION
MAIN CHANNEL
16:00 Koran
16:15 Basketball Match (Jordan vs Kuwait)
17:45 Goyson
18:00 Children's Programme
18:30 Chipp
19:15 Programme Review
19:30 Agricultural Programme
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic Show
21:40 Cultural Programme
22:15 Arabic Series
23:00 News Summary in Arabic
23:10 Arabic Series (Continued)
23:25 Religious Programme

FOREIGN CHANNEL
16:00 French Programme
19:00 News in French
19:15 French Programme
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Thee's Company (Comedy)
21:10 Documentary (The Greeks)
22:00 News in English
22:15 Strike Force

BBC WORLD SERVICE
639, 720, 1413 KHz
06:00 News
06:30 News
07:00 News
07:30 News
08:00 News
08:30 News
09:00 News
09:30 News
10:00 News
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21:30 News
22:00 News
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23:30 News
24:00 News

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS
Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37169.

EXHIBITION
* Bulgarian Exhibition of Books and Arts. Exhibition Hall, the Royal Cultural Centre.
* Video-Dramatique: Le fil conducteur (16:30 hrs). French Cultural Centre.

SERVICE CLUBS
Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel, 2:00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club, Jabal Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 816534.

CULTURAL CENTRES
Royal Cultural Centre. Tel. 6610247
American Centre. 43771
American Centre library. 41520
British Council. 36147-8
French Cultural Centre. 37009
Globe Institute. 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre. 42023
Turkish Cultural Centre. 24049
Haya Arts Centre. 665195
Husseini Youth City. 667181
Y.W.C.A. 41793
Jordanian Municipal Library. 36111
University of Jordan Library. 843555

MUSEUMS
Folklore Museum. Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum. Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qatra (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery. Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Mustashah, Jabal Lweibdeh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128.
Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum). Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.

CHURCHES
St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic). Jabal Amman, tel. 24590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic). Jabal Lweibdeh, 37440.
De la Saie Church (Roman Catholic). Jabal Hussein, 661757.
Church of the Assumption (Greek Orthodox). Abdali, 23541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Red-crocer). Jabal Amman, 41559.
Armenian Catholic Church. Astrafieh, 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church. Astrafieh, 775261.
St. Raphael Church (Syrian Orthodox). Astrafieh, 771751.
Armenian International Church (Inter-denominational). meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, 816534.

PRAYER TIMES
06:53 Fajr
07:18 Sunrise
11:23 Dhuhr
17:46 Asr
19:12 Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT
This information is supplied by Alla Information department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel. (08) 53200, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS
06:00 Cairo (MS)
06:30 Kuwait (PK)
09:15 Dubai (RJ)
09:30 Amman (RJ)
09:35 Doha (RJ)
09:45 Abu Dhabi, Kuwait (RJ)
10:00 Beirut (RJ)
12:25 Muscat, Sharjah, Abu Dhabi, Doha (GA)
14:40 Kuwait (KU)
15:10 Jeddah (SV)
16:00 Cyprus (RJ)
17:00 Rio de Janeiro, Lisbon (LA)
17:10 Paris, Damascus (AF)
17:10 Athens (RJ)
17:35 Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)
17:35 London, Paris (RJ)
17:40 New York, Amsterdam (KL)
17:40 Madrid, Geneva (RJ)
18:00 Istanbul (RJ)
18:00 Rome (RJ)
18:30 Cairo (RJ)
18:30 Bangkok (RJ)
19:25 Beirut (MEA)
19:30 Frankfurt (LH)
06:10 Cairo (RJ)
06:10 Baghdad (RJ)

DEPARTURES
06:10 Damascus, Frankfurt (LH)
06:45 Cairo (RJ)
06:50 Kuwait (PK)
06:55 Istanbul, Amsterdam (KL)
06:55 Amman (RJ)
07:15 Cairo (MS)
07:15 Amman (RJ)
08:15 Beirut (MEA)
08:30 Athens (OA)
08:30 Damascus, Rome (Alitalia)
09:40 Karachi (PK)
11:00 Vienna, New York (RJ)
11:30 Athens (RJ)
11:30 Belgrade, London (RJ)
12:15 Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)
12:30 Laraca, Zurich (SZ)
12:30 Paphos (RJ)
12:30 Cyprus (RJ)
13:25 Larnaca (CY)
14:30 Doha, Abu Dhabi, Sharjah, Muscat (GA)
15:40 Kuwait (KU)

MARITIME TRAFFIC
Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port:
Konkar Poseidon
Ascon
Tropos Santiago
Breda
E.R. Brussel
Lady Tane
French liner
Kajima
Golden Arabia
Kotia Salem
Al Waititi
Al Radi

Amin Kavar and Sons Company, Tel. 22324 (six lines) at your service.

MONEY EXCHANGE
Local selling rates in JLD
Belgian franc 65/ 65.4
Dutch guilder 116/ 116.7
Egyptian guinea 319/ 323
French franc 42.6/ 42.9
Iraqi dinar 366.6/ 373.3
Italian lire (for 100) 21.3/ 21.5
Japanese yen (for 100) 160.3/ 161.3
Kuwaiti dinar 1511.6/ 1517.3
Saudi riyal 110.3/ 112.6
Swedish crown 46/ 46.3
Swiss franc 157.6/ 158.5
U.S. sterling pound 500.5/ 503.5
U.S. dollar 399/ 395
W. German mark 130.8/ 131.6

WEATHER
Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.
A drop in temperature is expected, with medium clouds and northerly moderate winds. In Aqaba, it will be dusty, with northerly moderate winds and sea calm.
Low/high temperature in deg. C
Amman 15/27
Aqaba 20/34
Dead Sea 12/ 90
Jordan Valley 20/34

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES
Ambulance 193, 775111
Fire, police 199
Blood bank 775121
Civil Defence 261111
Fire headquarters 22090-3
Police rescue 192, 21111, 37777
Traffic police 56390-1
Electric Power Co. 36381-2
Municipal water service 77125-8
Queen Alia Int. Airport (08) 53333

HOSPITALS
Husseini Medical Centre 813813-32
Khaldi Maternity, J. Amn 44281-1
Al-Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn 42441
Jabal Amman Maternity 42362
Malha, J. Amman 36140
Palestine, Shmeisani 66417-4
Shmeisani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 84584-5
Dar Al-Shifa, J. Hussein 667158
Al-Munir Hospital 667227-9
The Islamic, Abdali 66322-2
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164
Italian, Al-Munajreen 777101-3
Al-Bashir, J. Astrafieh 775111
Army, Madra 91611

NIGHT DUTY
AMMAN:
Dr. Amin Abdul Jabbar 574222

MARKET PRICES
Upper/lower price in JLD per kg.
Apple (golden) 250/ 220
Apple (local) 250/ 220
Apple (maroon) 250/ 220
Banana (Mukammal) 280/ 240
Beans (Mukammal) 330/ 280
Beans 330/ 280
Cabbage 140/ 100
Carrot 140/ 110
Cauliflower (white) 160/ 130
Cherries (all kinds) 400/ 350
Cucumber (large) 130/ 110
Cucumber (small) 330/ 280
Dates 220/ 180
Eggplant (large) 230/ 180
Eggplant (small) 140/ 100
Figs 250/ 200
Garlic (without leaves) 200/ 150
Grapes 200/ 150
Grapefruit 120/ 90
Guavas 280/ 250

Lebanon 170/ 140
Mallow 60/ 40
Marrow (large) 140/ 100
Marrow (small) 220/ 180
Onion (dry) 160/ 130
Onion (wet) 550/ 500
Oranges 250/ 200
Parsley 280/ 250
Peas 100/ 100
Peas 580/ 530
Pepper (sweet) 180/ 140
Pepper (hot green) 200/ 160
Pumpkin 500/ 450
Pumpkin (sweet) 130/ 120
Potatoes 210/ 180
Radishes 100/ 80
Sweet Melon 100/ 70
Tomatoes 100/ 70
Water Melon 120/ 90

Officials to negotiate loan for seismology network

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Ahmad Obaidat has given approval for dispatching two senior officials to Kuwait to negotiate a loan to develop Jordan's seismological network system.

National Planning Council President Omar Abdullah Daqqaan and the director of the geological research centre at the Natural Resources Authority will hold talks with officials from the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development to finance the projects.

Labour committee examines foreign workers' applications

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Labour Employment Committee held a meeting Tuesday under the chairmanship of Labour Minister Tayseer Abdul Jabbar to review applications by public and private organisations to import 1,333 foreign workers.

The committee announced that it approved requests for the employment of 251 of these workers, or 19 per cent of the total number of applications. It also decided to ask 89 other workers to leave the country because they had violated employment regulations or because it was found that Jordanian workers could take their place.

JDA president returns from international dental meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — The president of the Jordan Dentists Association (JDA) Tuesday said that modern methods of treating gum diseases and a concentration on protective programmes, particularly in relation to school children's dental care and co-operating with the World Health Organisation (WHO) in applying dental care programmes in the developing countries were among the subjects of discussion at the International Dentists Conference, held in the Swedish capital of Helsinki recently.

Dr. Maraga was speaking after his arrival from Helsinki where he took part in the 72nd conference of the International Dentists Federation.

RSS, India work on draft technical agreement

By P.V. Vivekanand
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordan and India are currently working on a draft agreement on scientific and technical cooperation which is expected to be signed before the end of 1984, according to a senior official of the Royal Scientific Society (RSS).

Dr. Munthir Salah, adviser to RSS President Fakreddin Dagastani, said Sunday the proposed agreement will be part of a Jordanian-Indian cooperation protocol signed in 1979 and will focus on exchange of information and expertise, joint research and training of experts wherever necessary.

Dr. Salah, who paid a 14-day working visit to India last month in response to an invitation by the New Delhi-based Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), told the Jordan Times he has identified a number of fields in which the RSS and the CSIR can cooperate to further their research and achievements and score fruitful results.

Solar energy and building material are two fields in which the RSS and the CSIR could achieve immediate results of joint research, Dr. Salah said.

A unique "low-cost housing scheme for the developing world," designed by the Central Building Research Institute (CBRI) — one of the various research organisations under the CSIR umbrella — will be of much benefit to Jordan, Dr. Salah said.

The RSS intends to take part in an international symposium organised by the CBRI in Roorkee, central India, in November and submit a working paper to the conference, Dr. Salah added.

Two Indian scientists are expected to visit Jordan soon in connection with the planned Jordanian-Indian cooperation agreement, the RSS official said. The draft agreement will be finalised during their visit and Dr. Salah expects that the final protocol will be signed before the end of this year.

During his visit to India Dr. Salah visited 14 specialised research organisations in various parts of the subcontinent. He said he was impressed by the "most commendable progress" achieved by Indian scientists, who "despite being handicapped by the scarcity of advanced equipment and strict control over imports, have managed to bring India to the forefront of the developing world."

Most of the Indian scientists and experts are familiar with the environmental and regional characteristics of the Middle East Arab countries, Dr. Salah said.

"The familiarity and the past and present research in cooperation with the Middle East Arab countries are of distinct advantage to them (the scientists and experts) while dealing with Jordan," he added.

In addition, most of the Indian research institutes work in close coordination with various international organisations and keep themselves well-informed about latest breakthroughs in research in the field of science and technology, the RSS official said.

Food technology is another major sphere for Jordanian-Indian cooperation, Dr. Salah observed. He said he was surprised by the progress India has achieved in its quest for food self-sufficiency.

"I was most surprised to note that India produces over 40 million tons of wheat in addition to three or four times that amount of rice," he said.

The Institute of Food Technology, based in Mysore, southern India, has come up with several answers to meet the food requirements of a developing country, he said.

"It is a field, which I feel, is worth pursuing," Dr. Salah said, "especially that food security is one of the strategic factors in a country's overall security."

Another factor which impressed him during his visit to India, Dr. Salah said, was that "India believes in and stresses the South-South dialogue rather than the North-South dialogue on technical and scientific cooperation."

The South-South dialogue — economical, scientific, technological research cooperation among the countries of the developing world — is of much greater benefit to the developing nations cooperation with the developed countries, Dr. Salah concluded.



PARACHUTING PRINCESS: Princess Aysheh (second left), the 16-year-old daughter of His Majesty King Hussein, has become Jordan's first woman parachutist, an official announcement said. The announcement added that the princess made her first jump last week on the completion of her parachute training. Her instructor was her brother Prince Abdullah (centre), who is a graduate of the British military academy, Sandhurst.

Ministries to coordinate social, welfare projects

AMMAN (Petra) — Means of cooperation and coordination between the Ministry of Social Development and the Ministry of Health in the field of developing local communities and the welfare of children, the aged and the handicapped were discussed Tuesday during a meeting between Health Minister Kamel Al Ajlouni and Minister of Social Development Abdul Salam Kana'an.

Jordan University to host science, environment conference

AMMAN (Petra) — A four-day conference on the science of living organisms has been scheduled for early November at the University of Jordan Faculty of Engineering and Technology.

During the conference the delegates will discuss subjects pertaining to vegetation and animal life, diseases affecting them, micro-organisms, biological and medical topics connected with them and environmental pollution.

Specialists from Jordan the Arab World and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) will take part in the conference. An exhibition of scientific and medical equipment will also be held during the conference.

Arab agricultural engineers to discuss food security, projects

AMMAN (Agencies) — Ways of developing agricultural production in the Arab World and means of achieving Arab food security, in addition to setting up joint Arab agricultural projects will be discussed during a technical meeting of Arab agricultural engineers, which will be held here on Sept. 24.

Speaking about the meeting, President of the Jordanian Agricultural Engineers Association Issam Naser said that it will be preceded by a meeting of the Higher Council and the Executive

Obeidat requests institutions to prepare for 5-year plan in cooperation with NPC

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Ahmad Obaidat Tuesday called on all government ministries and public institutions to cooperate with the National Planning Council (NPC) in preparing the third five-year development plan for the years 1986-1990.



Ahmad Obaidat

Preparing such a plan requires the joint efforts from the government ministries, public institutions and national participation, Mr. Obaidat said. Mr. Obaidat asked all ministries and institutions to supply the NPC, no later than the beginning of December, with a comprehensive evaluation of their activities during the second five-year plan, including their policies and organisational procedures contained in the plan together with any amendments and the reasons for such amendments.

Mr. Obaidat also asked them to supply the NPC with evaluations of their projects in terms of implementation, financing and schedule. In addition, other projects which have been implemented, although they were not included in the original plan, should be supplied to the NPC together with background about such projects.

Mr. Obaidat stressed the importance of supplying the NPC with lists of the projects proposed for inclusion in the new five-year plan, in accordance with the form drawn up by the NPC. He also requested all institutions to set their priorities, in addition to all policies and organisational procedures necessary for achieving the goals of the ministry or institution.

The Prime minister also asked that each ministry or public institution nominates one or more

Life expectancy in Jordan is nearly 62 years, WHO says

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan is among nine Middle East countries which enjoy life expectancy and infant survival above the 1980-84 world average, according to data recently released in the World Health Organisation (WHO) annual statistical abstract.

The abstract and the statistical chart attached to it indicate that life expectancy in Jordan which was well below the (1960-64) 59.2 years life expectancy rate, has risen to nearly 62 years. The report attributes this to vast improvement in health care which it says amounts to a "social revolution".

Only eight countries in the region, Cyprus, Kuwait, Bahrain,

Lebanon, Syria, the United Arab Emirates and Turkey come before Jordan on the scale which shows that the highest life expectancy rate in Cyprus stands at almost nearly 70 years.

At the bottom of the scale comes Afghanistan both in terms of life expectancy and infant mortality. The report said that an Afghan could only expect to live about 40 years by the early 1980s, while more than one in five babies failed to survive.

According to the report, in some countries, including the top nine, people can now reasonably expect to live almost as long as Europeans and North Americans and infant mortality rates are, in many cases half what they were in the early 1960s. Nevertheless, it says that standards in general fall well below those set in industrialised countries.

However, improvements in infant mortality rates, one of the most significant indicators of health standards, have been less marked. According to the report, only nine Middle Eastern countries, including Jordan, report lower rates than the world average (80.8:1,000 live births), compared with four at the start of the 1960s. Elsewhere rates are merely average, even for the developing world (91.5:1,000) — and some report standards as low as any in the world, according to the WHO report.

Further heavy spending in both health care and education, the report says, should ensure that the general welfare of most Middle East citizens improves steadily at least until the year 2000.

FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT

Private apartment of one bedroom, full bath, kitchen and living room, with wall-to-wall carpeting, central heating, colour TV, telephone, garage and garden.

Location: Abu Qura Farm, University Road, behind Al Rai Newspaper.
Tel: 664910

Herut clears way for cabinet

(Continued from page 1)

In a fiery speech to Herut, the senior member of the Likud bloc, Mr. Shamir, called for a "cease-fire" with Labour and a "national effort" to rebuild Israel's sinking economy.

But he made it clear the two partners in the joint government were still divided on how to reach "peace with Jordan."

"The territories of the land of Israel will not be the subject of bargaining and there will be no foreign sovereignty there," he said, drawing applause.

Labour has advocated a return of some territories in exchange for peace and Mr. Peres told his Labour Party Monday that Labour would not compromise on its stand.

But he said the two parties had agreed to submit to a national vote any agreement with Jordan that relinquished territories.

"We will present to the public our principles aggressively and sincerely and we will strengthen our power to ensure the victory of our way," Mr. Shamir told an applauding audience.

He chided Labour for entering talks on a joint government halfheartedly, reminding Mr. Peres that he spoke on a unity cabinet as a "government of national paralysis."

Mr. Peres won approval for a bipartisan government from the Labour Party central committee in a stormy session Monday, marked by catcalls from some party members who called for new elections rather than joint rule.

Under the Labour-Likud agreement, Mr. Peres will serve half of a 50-month term and will be succeeded by Mr. Shamir. Each man will serve as deputy prime minister and foreign minister under the other.

SPANISH CULTURAL CENTRE

Spanish Classes

The next course starts on Monday October 1. Registration from September 20, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4 to 6 p.m.

Spanish Cultural Centre, Queen Zein St., Jabal Amman (First Circle), close to the Spanish Embassy.
Phone 24049.

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'Palestine problem still plagues relations with liberal West'

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan addressed the Arab-Liberal International Meeting held in Amman Sept. 10-12. Following is the full text of Prince Hassan's speech.

LOOKING AROUND the contemporary Middle East and the Muslim world and at all the fundamentalist movements that have committed atrocities in the name of religion or ideology, you could hardly be blamed for concluding that there is neither the room nor the basis for a dialogue with the liberals of the Liberal International. Conversely you may be so bold as to suggest that what this part of the globe really needs is a massive infusion of liberalism with all its attributes.

Allow me to disabuse you for a moment. This part of the world requires more than a dose of liberalism. It badly needs a touch of intellectual generosity and an objective analysis of its very human problems which where I feel certain, the liberal parties represented here can make a very useful contribution. The interaction or dialectic relationship as some may prefer to call it between our Arab-Islamic culture and liberal values, method and traditions has been deep and long. Indeed it characterised the movement which led to the emergence of the modern nation and state. Our encounter with the liberal age has always been ambivalent, to the extent that the present state of affairs is but a rough on a confused map. There are three main features to this encounter: the first two are the results of sustained relations with a dominant European civilisation, while the third is the reaction to the same.

1. The revival of a more liberal method in the interpretation of religious tenets in accordance with the long accepted Islamic system of consensus, (ijma'), analogy, (qias), and public interest.

2. The actual introduction of a liberal, constitutional and representative system of government with all the attributes and priorities of democratic parliaments.

3. Unfortunately, however, growth and development of both liberal religious interpretation and the parliamentary system have been stunted by the machinations of imperial and other interests in the West. The denial to the indigenous people of their legitimate rights to independence and nationhood has set in motion a process culminating in the present situation. Consequently the Muslim world has found it difficult to manifest some of the ideals that you are accustomed to, preaching both at home and abroad.

Before I take up these aspects of our dialogue I want to point out, and rather emphatically, that Islam is a religion of tolerance. It is an egalitarian faith. Islam is a religion which is defined in relation to a divine text, namely the Holy Quran. The text is clear and leaves no room for doubt. It provides for the protection of religious minorities whose rights are guaranteed in textual injunctions. First and foremost there is no compulsion in our religion — La ikrah fi al-din — 2/256. This is clear and categorical. The Holy Book also proclaims: "Harkon ye who disbelieve: I do not worship what you worship, nor do you worship what I worship".

The chapter ends with a terse but clear statement, if I may put it like that: "you have your religion and I have mine" 109/2-7. Yet, the people of the Book, the believers in the Abrahamic religions are marked out for privileged treatment when the Quran

states: "Contend not with people of the Book except on the basis of that which is the best, but contend not at all with such of them as are unjust. Tell them: We believe in that which has been revealed to us, and in that which has been revealed to you: Our God and your God is One; and to Him we submit." 29/37

Without labouring the point the tolerance has been attested to by a variety of non-Muslims. It may be surprising however to have a testimony from Chaim Weizman, the Zionist leader and first president of the State of Israel. In his evidence to the Anglo-American Committee of Enquiry on Palestine, he said the following: "I wouldn't like to do any injustice; the Muslim world has treated the Jews with considerable tolerance. The Ottoman Empire (of which we, Arabs were a part) received the Jews with open arms when they were driven out of Spain, and the Jews should never forget that".

He added that "on the other hand it's no use ignoring the fact that these great humanitarian traditions are now under the pressure of modern nationalism? I wonder whose nationalism we have to contend with nowadays?"

After this worthy digression, let us return to our subject of dialogue with European liberals. Starting soon after the French revolution, following the Napoleonic expedition to Egypt in 1798, a period of readjustment and change swept through the Arabic speaking Muslim Middle East and the Ottoman State as a whole. It culminated in the wholesale adoption of many European concepts and methods of government. By the middle of the 19th century the introduction of fundamental reform had gone so far that the period became known as that of the *tanzimat* — reorganisation, and the launching of the new order — *nizam jadid*. Considerable care had to be taken to justify and explain the introduction of measures to reorganise the armed forces, government administration, education, health and transport. But above all, changes were made in the laws governing the status of the individual. Muslims and non-Muslims were called upon to bear arms in defence of not just the community but of the territorial state.

This was particularly significant as it led to the wholesale secularisation of government institutions. The purpose was clearly to infuse, into the Muslim way of life, what was thought to be the essence of European civilisation. It brought with it the liberal traditions of European liberalism: constitutional government, freedom of political thought and expression, and parliamentary democracy. However, the Arab and Muslim communities had to endure considerable difficulties in order to implement these changes. Europe pursued self-interest policies for immediate gain and disillusionment set in early.

To Muslims, the purpose of Islam is not simply to exhort the faithful to do good and avoid evil but to construct a community in which the Divine Law of God will prevail. Islam, as such, knows no distinction between a religious and a temporal realm. There can be no differentiation between

state and church, since there is no church in Islam. The state is, in theory at least, an integral part of the religious law. Both religion and politics — the spiritual and secular dimensions of the state — form a unity under the all-embracing laws of al-Sharia. Thus, the Islamic concept of the state is that of a perfect and immutable entity within the Islamic tradition.

Under this generally acknowledged dispensation, the individual Muslim, Arab or otherwise, is confronted with an important obstacle in the evolution of certain political notions. The obstacle, however, is more apparent than real. Traditionally, Muslims have been unable to study politics as a completely separate discipline from the traditional approach to religious jurisprudence. Because of this, vital problems arose concerning the nature of the state, the concepts of authority and power, the variety of government institutions, the attributes and qualifications of rule and the limitations on the use of power, which have not been felt to need a comprehensive or decisive situation. Despite the gradual adoption of civil codes, those beliefs, as well as others, such as individual rights and obligations, could not be examined and assessed except within the jealously guarded laws of Islamic jurisprudence. The nationalist struggle had cast such a dark shadow that modern Arabs had little time and no intellectual will to tackle these fundamental problems.

Political legacy

It was this political legacy with which Arab modernising rulers and religious reformers had to contend since the beginnings of the nineteenth century. Many of them came to the conclusion that, in the absence of a divine formula for government embodied in an institutional framework which could truly be regarded as Islamic, they could chart their own way and devise their own modes of government. It was at this juncture that modern European ideas and concepts began to make an impact on Muslim societies in the east. Until then, and despite the vicissitudes of Muslim rulers, traditional Islam continued to view European Christendom as a political rival and an enemy of Muslim doctrine and power. Muslims were apt to dismiss European civilisation as something incomplete, superseded, and above all, irrelevant. Their attitude was essentially derived from the absolute conviction of the irrefutable superiority of their own way of life and the validity of their faith as the last of the divine messages to mankind.

The further problem that obstructed the efforts of the religious reformers was the difficulty of developing secular political theories out of their religion. This was particularly hard since Islam is distinguished from other religions by virtue of being a sacred juridical system. The result is that political thoughts and concepts in Muslim countries are often derived from European philosophic and political traditions, although they are applied in a Muslim context and with an Islamic content. They are concerned mainly with two issues which have been formulated in European terms: the quest for political independence coupled with the establishment of a sovereign state on the one hand, and on the other, the search for determinants of the nature and limits of government. In this process, the reformers have had to rely not so



much on the letter of inherited wisdom but on the spirit and essence of Islamic doctrine. Pursuing this major, if long neglected, principle of interpretation, Muslims were able to chart the way for their own future and determine the nature of state and government. They came to the conclusion that there was no fundamental incompatibility between the concept of the nation-state and Islam, or between Islam and the principles of constitutional government. It was conceded that through internal weakness and error, as well as external pressure and influence, Islamic values and standards had been distorted and corrupted. Their conclusion was that true Islam, a dynamic, humane, liberal and living religion, must be rejuvenated and defended if the Muslims were ever to withstand Western attacks and survive divergent schools of thought. There was, on the one hand, the school of liberalism, which called for the establishment of a modern Westernised system of government and society, and on the other, the fundamentalist school, which has sought to remould the present in the image of the past.

Post-war obstacles

Throughout the Muslim world, and particularly in the Middle East, there began a serious attempt to introduce and operate a system of liberal democracy, the subject of my immediate concern, with written constitutions, elected sovereign legislatures, independent judiciaries, political parties and a free press. Soon after World War I, the countries of the Arab East followed suit, only to have their brave demarche frustrated by the provisions of the post-war settlement. The Arabs found their cultivated sense of national integrity shattered by the division of their national domain into states and zones of influence for the purpose of accommodating the strategic interests of their European allies. The shock was even more traumatic when they realised that their aspirations for complete independence were no longer attainable. Under these conditions, the cautious Arab quest for a modern political process no longer concentrated on the system of government, but on the two precepts that initially determined the nature of the Arab national struggle: Arab independence and the unity of the Arab homeland.

Today, everywhere in the Arab East, the experiment with the liberal constitutional system of government appears to have failed. Democratic institutions have been abandoned in many of the Arab states in favour of a more totalitarian system of government. In other states of the region, the adaptation of the Western system of government is in such a state of disrepair or collapse that the search for a viable alternative has been active for some years past.

The distrust which has characterised Arab-Western relations began to crystallise gradually. The alliance gave way to a sentiment of betrayal and bad faith at the Western reluctance to honour their pledges to the Arabs. The peace settlement transformed that disillusionment into hostility and outright rejection of whatever the West had to offer. The anti-Western mode of thought was so pervasive that governmental institutions adapted from Western practices were seen as the embodiment of that Western domination which had become only too real and obvious.

The purpose of Western collaboration with the Arabs was no longer perceived as purely for the benefit of the Arabs so that they might gain their independent nationhood, but to serve, first and foremost, the imperial interests of the West. It was a sudden revelation for many of the Arab leaders, including members of my own Hashemite family, that the West Europeans and the British in particular, had not ventured to the Arab East to vindicate the emergence of an Arab Nation and preserve the political and national integrity of its people. Naive, I suppose, they were, but they were new and innocent practitioners in the complex and devious game of international statecraft.

What they could not fathom was the importance of the Arab East as a vital strategic area and that British policy was framed to protect its own essential interests: namely, the safety of British imperial lines of communications and the exploitation of the region's rich oil resources. The immediate objective of the policy was to achieve effective domination of the Arab regions and populations, and to attempt to organise them so as to ensure permanent possession or influence. Usually this was done through the manipulation of a combination of financial, economic and military sanctions.

This attitude was overtly expressed when a British observer referred to the Arab territories after the First World War as constituting "the first brown dominion, not the last brown colony". At present, the method is different but the purpose appears to be the same in determining the approach and policy of the two superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union.

To pursue a policy based on the strategic importance of an area and to ignore its people is always dangerous: in this case it was to have large and unexpected ramifications both for the West and for the Arabs. The problem was compounded when the independence movement began to gather strength and momentum. British and French officials, who were implanted in every department of the new governments to take on the role of benevolent supervisors, generally persisted in regarding it as the immature projection of adolescent intellectuals, or the work of fanatical agitators who were fighting the wars of yesterday.

The collapse of the liberal constitutional system of government in the Arab East could not be blamed entirely on the selfishness or heavy-handedness of imperial and mandatory powers. There were other, more crucial, reasons which made it unworkable at the time. The indigenous political leaders had insufficient familiarity and little training, as well as inadequate support, for the task of operating the system. It was, in all practical terms, an alien system

transferred ready-made not only from another country but from another civilisation. It was imposed by Western or Westernised leadership and imposed on states whose societies had not evolved independently into mature political communities. As such, it could not respond adequately to the strains and stresses of Arab society, nor could it reconcile the incompatible demands of a nationalist movement with the interests of an imperial power. The result was, as Bernard Lewis poignantly puts it, "a political order unrelated to the past or present, and profoundly irrelevant to the needs of the future".

The system was doomed from the very outset, since it failed to respond to the deeply felt personal needs of the Arab or satisfy their nationalist demands for independence and unity. The shame of it all is that the mandatory powers and their representatives contributed to these abuses as much by their patronising attitude and questionable conduct towards parliamentary government as by the unwarranted interference that prevented the evolution of a more responsive system, more attuned to Arab tradition, it was their overt and covert activities that eventually led to the radicalisation of Arab politics. The outcome became a foregone conclusion: the rejection of the systems as an undesirable semblance of unwarranted Western influence. It was part and parcel of the Arab endeavour for independence and assertion of their own integrity.

Palestinian rights

As you are well aware the question of Palestine continues to plague our relations with the liberal West. I feel that our relations with the fundamentalist West are already polarised. The central problem in the Middle East conflict has been, and continues to be, the denial of the legitimate rights of the people of Palestine. It has been the most prominent element in a long lasting process. It was there when A.G. Balfour sat down to draft that infamous declaration in 1917; it has remained in the policies drawn up by not only the government of Israel but by others including the U.S.

The question is really no longer one of negotiations but what to negotiate? The Jews have exercised their right to national self-determination with the help of all the resources of the liberal West but no-one seems prepared to grant the Palestinians similar rights.

At issue today is the cardinal principle enunciated in U.N. Resolution 242 and reiterated in many other resolutions and proposals. The principle calls for the exchange of peace for territory, or in the words of my brother His Majesty King Hussein, who lost a hand in framing its provisions, total peace for total withdrawal. It is this principle which is non-negotiable.

As the two superpowers are terribly preoccupied with what appear to be more pressing domestic and geo-strategic matters, Jordan has called for the convening of an international peace conference to break the deadlock and revitalise the peace process. We regard it as imperative that the process is kept alive so that other powers can exert their influence not only on the parties involved in the dispute, but on the two superpowers so that the Gulf separating them may be bridged. The peace momentum must be maintained until the superpowers are in a position to res-

ume their active role on the international political scene. Europe, and organisations like the Liberal International, can play an important role. Their initiative should be designed to serve as the basis for a collaborative international effort, not only to defuse the threatening situation but to provide the appropriate climate, the framework, the venue and the vehicle which may contribute to solving the outstanding problems of the world, amongst which Palestine must rank as a high priority.

Jordan and the other Arab governments seek a peaceful settlement to the Palestine question. Palestinians want a peaceful settlement of their problem. The Arab constituency for peace, despite terrible provocations and disappointments has persisted but it cannot maintain its strength if its voice is lost in the wilderness and its calls go unheard. They want peace and reconciliation allowing peoples of different ethnicity and religion to live side by side. I belong in a family that has had a long tradition of promoting brotherhood and cooperation between the nations of the world.

In this part of the world and in this age we have aimed for peace and social harmony among all our people on the basis of a centrist approach to our contemporary problem. The politics of the middle ground, steering a deliberate middle course, which has been Jordan's response to the politics of the extremes, faces serious dangers that threaten not only to undermine the political process of all states in the region, but to jeopardise their very survival. Irredentist, populist and religiously fanatical political movements all over the Middle East have had an abrupt impact on Arab society and politics. The denial of legitimate rights, compounded by the pluralist composition of Arab society and to maintain its ethnic and religious diversity, has allowed rampant extremism to dominate the conduct of public affairs. Social diversity has assumed an ever-increasing importance in the struggle for different origins and divergent aims. The politics of fanaticism have added a new dimension to social conflict and the polarisation of communities. The continuation of this trend will not further undermine the development of a sound, healthy and representative political process, but it will contribute to the fragmentation of all the states of the region, as it has done to the most successive pluralist state, the Lebanon, in the last few years.

The middle ground is a concept which could become operative in the area of Jordan and the occupied territories utilising the manpower of the area and the oil wealth of the peninsular states. Our vision ideally is that of a Ben-elur arrangement whereby the states of the region, independent and sovereign as they are, could live in an atmosphere of peace and cooperation. This will never be achieved unless the aggregate rights of the Palestine Arabs in their own ancestral homeland are guaranteed. Though we live in a world where the line of detente should be indivisible, the overwhelming reality today is that the management of strategy and resources prevails over the understanding of human dignity. The trend towards fundamentalism and the discrediting of liberal middle ground is the obvious outcome. I know that our discussions here today will bear these essential facts in mind.

ORIGIN OF WORDS

Every word was once a poem. Each began as a picture.

COSMETICS

When a girl uses cosmetics she is putting herself in "order," for this word is from the Greek *kosmos* which the English took over as *cosmos* from the late Latin. *Cosmos* means order, specifically the universe considered as a system, perfect in order and arrangement, the opposite of chaos, and there is a traditional association between order and beauty. Girls perform important rites with their cosmetics that are in tune with universal laws.

HANDKERCHIEF

The word *handkerchief* is a bastard formation. We often speak of this accessory as a "pocket handkerchief" and here indeed is a language potpourri. We know the meaning of pocket, and hand is a native word. *Kerchief* is a modern form of the Old French *coverchief*, literally "cover-head" or "head-cover," so when we speak of a "pocket handkerchief" we are actually saying that we "hold in our hand a cover for our head that we usually carry in our pocket."

UMBRELLA

We turn to another language for *umbrella*. In Latin *umbra* meant "shadow" and this entered Italian as *ombra* with the same meaning and from *ombra* was developed the word *umbrella* for "shade." In those countries of the hot sun a "little shade" was helpful, but the English use the *umbrella* largely for rain.

STOCKINGS

The word *stockings* owes no debt to Latin. It is a native word. In the beginning days of England *stock* meant a trunk or stem, which is not too far from the shape of a human leg. Eventually it was spelled *stock* and meant the covering for a leg. The upperstocks were breeches, and the netherstocks became the stockings that we know.

PAJAMA

Pajama is Persian for "leg-garment," from *pac*, "leg," and *jama*, "clothing." *Pajamas* were loose trousers worn in the harems of the East. The men, however, wore them too.

MILLINERY

The word *millinery* is the overall term for the hats that women wear. *Millinery* derives from Milan, a town in Italy that at one time specialised in hats and finery for the girls.

NEMESIS

Adolf Hitler attacked the Soviet Union, and the Soviet Union became his nemesis and helped complete his destruction. The Greeks contributed this word to English. Their goddess Nemesis was the goddess of retribution. She punished pretentiousness and extraordinary crimes with her sword, her scourge, and her swift avenging wings. So in current usage *nemesis* signifies "an agent of retribution."

— Ahmad Jaber

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**Jordan to
take part in
Arab squash**

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will take part in the Arab Squash Championship to be held in Bahrain on Sept. 15. Jordan's delegation to the championship which includes four players is headed by Hamdan Al Qayyadh.

Jordan-Hong Kong draw

AMMAN (J.T.) — The National Jordanian soccer team drew 1-1 with Hong Kong at the Eighth Asian Soccer Championships on Monday, the Al Ra'i newspaper reported Tuesday. Jordan and Hong Kong are in Group Four of the tournament being held in China.

Jordan's Khaled Awad opened the scoring in the 35th minute of the first half with a magnificent header after Jordan had dominated play throughout this period but failing to capitalise on the many chances they had.

But Hong Kong came back with attacking play to secure a point with a goal in the 44th minute.

**Top athletes to attend
Tokyo track meet**

TOKYO (AP) — Olympic champions Carl Lewis of the United States and Daley Thompson of Great Britain, and world record holders Olja Bondarenko of the Soviet Union and Marita Koch of East Germany, head a top-flight field of athletes at an invitational track meet here Sept. 14, meet organisers said Tuesday.

Several other winners at last year's World Championships in Helsinki and the Friendship Games held recently in the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia for teams that joined the boycott of the Olympics will take part in the Tokyo meet, according to officials of the Japan Amateur Athletic Federation.

A field of 254 athletes from 19 nations will compete in the one-day event to be held at Tokyo's national stadium, an outdoor arena that was the venue for the 1964 Summer Olympics.

Britain, East Germany, Hungary, Italy, Japan, the Soviet Union and the United States are fielding one team each, while an Asian all-star selection team includes athletes from Bahrain, China, Taiwan, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Kuwait, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, South Korea and Thailand.

Each country will enter one competitor in each of the 19 events for men and 10 events for women.

**Boycott threat for
Winter Olympics**

CALGARY (AP) — The International Ice Hockey Federation is threatening to boycott the 1988 Winter Olympics, according to a federation official.

Walter Wasservogel, the federation's secretary-general, said the organisation is protesting the International Olympic Committee's (IOC) decision to extend the Calgary Games from 12 to an unprecedented 16 days. Federation rules allow only 12-day Olympic tournaments.

"Canada is the motherland of hockey and it would be a great pity if there were none here in 1988," said Wasservogel.

The federation is also angered by Olympic eligibility rules that barred former national hockey league players from the 1984 winter games but didn't stop soccer pros from playing in the 1984 summer games.

Wasservogel said several top hockey nations, including the world-champion Soviets and silver-medallist Czechs, have complained that the extra time they spend in Calgary will mean starting their regular seasons too early.

Guenther Sabetzki, president of the international federation, says he has received letters from the Soviet, Czechoslovakian, Swedish and West German teams in support of the threatened boycott.

He said he expects the Austrians, Finns and Yugoslavs to follow suit.

"If the International Olympic Committee says that is their final decision... then I think it would happen — we wouldn't play."

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**Karpov,
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draw 1st game**

MOSCOW (R) — The first game of the World Chess Championship between reigning champion Anatoly Karpov and challenger Garry Kasparov, both from the Soviet Union, was agreed drawn after 36 moves.

Karpov, 33, who had the superiority of the white pieces, failed to gain a real initiative against his young rival's sharp choice of the Sicilian defence.

Despite a tough struggle, chances remained in balance throughout the game and peace was agreed after black's 36th move.

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Lebanese lira tumbles

BEIRUT (R) — Prime Minister Rashid Karami has asked Lebanon's central bank governor to take steps to curb a fall in the Lebanese pound, which plunged to its lowest ever level against the dollar Monday, banking sources said Tuesday.

The pound fell through the psychologically important level of seven to the dollar in early trading on the Beirut foreign exchange market.

It closed at 6.95 pounds on Saturday after central bank intervention to prop up the exchange rate, and reached a low of 7.10 pounds at one point.

Banking sources said the pound firmed slightly Tuesday morning due to profit taking, opening at around 7.03 pounds.

The sources described this morning's trend as stable, but said the market was still nervous. "It is up to the politicians to give us something new to restore confidence," one source said.

The sources blamed local political uncertainty for the fall, though most agreed the recent strengthening of the dollar worldwide was an aggravating factor.

The sources said lack of progress by Karami's "national unity" government on security and political reform plans and a threat by a key Muslim minister to boycott a weekly cabinet meeting Wednesday were the main causes of dwindling confidence on the foreign exchange market.

Minister Nabih Berri said he would not attend cabinet sessions unless they were turned into private meetings to discuss political reforms.

Mr. Druze leader Mr. Walid Jumblatt has indicated he may support Mr. Berri's stand.

Beirut radio said Tuesday Mr. Karami would contact political leaders to create an encouraging climate for Wednesday's cabinet meeting and the adoption of new security and political steps.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — The market closed firm after a moderately active session. At 1500 the F.T. 30 share index was up 7.3 to 854.7 and the F.T.-S.E. 100 share index at 1530 rose 9.7 to 1101.5.

Dealers said market sentiment was helped by a belief that U.S. Federal Reserve Board may be easing its tight monetary policy. Wall Street's higher opening and hopes of breakthrough in the six month oil miners strike talks also contributed to the higher trend.

Government bonds firmed as much as ¼ point while gold shares and North American ended mixed.

Wills Faber lost 16p at 901 after interim results below market expectations. Other insurance brokers declined in sympathy with Sedgwick group 4p off at 277.

Trafalgar House gained 7p at 277 on news it sold its holding of £10.10 million deferred shares in P and O.

Cadbury Schweppes was unchanged at 134p on news of the offer of 60 million ordinary shares at \$17 per American depositary receipt. Net proceeds are expected to add \$75 million.

British Aerospace closed unchanged at 333p after interim results.

ICI ended 10p higher at 628, Thorn EMI rose 150 to 407 while GEC gained 4p to 214. Lucas Industries rose 7p to 216 on revived speculative demand.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar, at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One sterling	1.2753/60	U.S. dollars	
One U.S. dollar	1.3163/66	Canadian dollars	
	3.0055/65	West German marks	
	3.3895/3905	Dutch guilders	
	2.4935/45	Swiss francs	
	60.45/48	Belgian francs	
	9.2200/50	French francs	
	1848.00/1849.00	Italian lire	
	245.30/40	Japanese yen	
	8.5245/95	Swedish crowns	
	8.5140/90	Norwegian crowns	
	10.8875/8925	Danish crowns	
One ounce of gold	338.75/339.25	U.S. dollars	

Mystery surrounds \$7b nuclear deal between China, Jordanian company

By Iain Jenkins
Middle East Economic Digest
(MEED) Reporter

LONDON — A little known overseas Jordanian company, may be poised to pull off one of the most bizarre business deals in the history of the nuclear industry.

Amman-based United Trading Company (UTC) claims it has been appointed to act as managing contractor for four nuclear power stations in China, on which Western interest has focused for more than 10 years.

UTC is owned by members of the Amman-based Hajjar family, businessman Tawfik Tabba and Lieutenant-General Abdul Hadi Al Majali, a former Jordanian chief of staff and ambassador to Washington. Al Majali is also a director of Defence and Security International, a Cyprus-based company set up in spring 1984 to provide security services to Middle East clients.

UTC, which lists its main activities as trading, contracting, and acting as an insurance and travel agent, openly admits it has no experience of nuclear power work.

But in a two-hour interview with MEED at UTC's U.K. head office in Leatherhead, Surrey, senior executive Radwan Hajjar affirmed that the company "had secured a firm and final contract for four nuclear power stations in China worth around \$7,000 million."

Radwan, brother of UTC President Taj Hajjar, said the order was signed on July 31 with China's Water Resources and Electric Power Ministry, following about 12 months of negotiations.

He added that UTC would do none of the construction work itself. "We are novices in the nuclear field... but that is not a handicap. We have the management skills and will subcontract out all of the work," he said.

The news that a company with no nuclear experience has won such a contract has sent shockwaves through the industry. But MEED's inquiries in Europe, the U.S. and the Far East have pro-

vided evidence to support UTC's claim.

Some European contractors say they have seen the contract and are already negotiating with UTC. So far, there has been no independent confirmation from the Chinese.

UTC says it is looking to European contractors to supply the technical know-how to build the stations, of which three will have two 900-MW units, and the fourth a single 700-MW unit.

But UTC, and its financial adviser, Jordan's Petra Bank, are also seeking export credit — and it is finance that will probably determine who eventually wins the orders.

Beijing-based Bank of China has undertaken to guarantee all finance, provided the interest rates on any credit are below about 6½ per cent.

Swiss companies have been quickest off the mark as far as putting a package together is concerned.

Brown, Boveri and Company says it is having talks with bankers. UTC and Sweden's Asea Atom, with which it is considering forming a consortium. Any packages would then be considered by a joint Jordanian/Chinese company — to be set up soon — which would piece together the most attractive elements.

UTC's contract is in two parts. The first concerns the two by 900-MW Guangdong pressurised water reactor (PWR), on the China/Hong Kong border.

The U.K.'s General Electric Company (GEC) and France's Framatome, which have been negotiating for its supply and installation since 1980, should not be affected, however.

UTC emphasises that its contract does not cover conventional and nuclear islands, and so should not upset the two European firms' talks.

The remaining three stations — also probably PWRs — are covered in the second part of the contract.

It is not yet clear whether one of the stations involved is a plant in Quinsan, Zhejiang province, for which West Germany's Kraftwerk

Union has been fruitlessly negotiating since 1976.

One of the main reasons for Beijing's decision to opt for UTC seems to have been the lack of headway made in talks with European and U.S. companies and governments.

According to Radwan Hajjar, the Chinese were "tired of the long-drawn-out negotiations," and turned to UTC to speed up the process.

For providing management skills, it is understood that UTC will receive a performance-linked management fee. The quicker it finalises a package, the more money it will get — and Radwan Hajjar is already talking about putting a deal together before the end of the year.

The poster facing the nuclear industry is: Why should China have selected a Jordanian-based trading company with absolutely no experience? According to Radwan Hajjar: "We simply took the initiative to approach the Chinese... They liked us, and they liked what we proposed."

There are also suggestions that UTC's ease may have been helped by its connections in the Arab financial markets.

However, Hajjar says his company won the contract on merit, and on the basis of smaller deals it has concluded with China in the past.

Nevertheless, most nuclear specialists are astonished by the deal. Some remain openly sceptical.

One company official told MEED: "I have recently been in China where I spoke to the Water Resources and Electric Power Ministry. There was no indication of any such contract."

But other European contractors and suppliers claim to have had meetings with UTC: government officials in both the U.K. and France also confirm that they have been approached about the scheme.

One company, which says it has seen the contract, said: "Had it been anyone other than the Chinese who were involved, we would not even have agreed to see the Jordanians."

IFC sees global debt crisis easing

WASHINGTON (R) — A World Bank agency said Monday there were signs the global debt crisis was easing but it remained uncertain if other big debtor countries would follow highly indebted Mexico's progress in reforming its economy.

"It is unclear to what extent other debtors can replicate even the short-term success that Mexico has so far achieved, considering the special strengths of the country," the International Finance Corporation (IFC) said in its annual report.

The IFC, which helps promote private sector development in the Third World, also commented gloomily that despite some improvement in the economic out-

look, the ability of debtor nations to pay was unlikely to improve before 1990.

Only well-designed economic policies and a strengthened private sector could change that outlook, the report said, adding that "in many developing countries, private industry is still fragile."

Mexico, which owes almost \$90 billion to foreign creditors, has recently forged a basic agreement with commercial banks to stretch

out repayments at easier terms than before.

But the IFC commented that Mexico's economic progress, which prompted the concessions made by commercial banks, followed an International Monetary Fund (IMF) adjustment programme that resulted in steep declines in income, rising unemployment and sweeping import reductions.

"Drastic economic compression is not a long-term solution," the IFC warned.

Outgoing IFC Vice President Hans Wurtke told reporters, "I don't mean to criticise the IMF measures — they were necessary — but the impact on the private

sectors of these countries was severe."

The IFC report commented that in recent months there were signs that commercial lenders were looking more favourably at investment in Third World private sectors.

The IFC said that private companies in the Third World were decimated by the recent recession and the harsh measures that followed in the wake of IMF-imposed programmes.

"Even efficient firms cannot long survive real borrowing costs of 30 to 40 per cent, which have prevailed in some of the developing countries recently," the report said.

Libyan-Turkish oil debts scheme suspended

ISTANBUL (R) — A plan for Libya to settle debts to Turkish contractors in oil has been suspended, Mr. Ozer Olcmen, chairman of the Association of Turkish Contractors operating in Libya, said Tuesday.

Turkish contractors had planned to form a company to receive crude oil from Libya to help settle the debts, then refine and sell it on the world market. "As the Libyans could not agree among themselves, this scheme is suspended for the time being," Mr. Olcmen told Reuters. A Turkish government source said earlier this month the deal was running into trouble because of differences over the price to be used to calculate the oil's value.

Mr. Olcmen said it was difficult to calculate the exact amount of Libyan debt to Turkish contractors, who annually earn \$750 million from Libya. Libya has stalled foreign currency payments for five months, he said. The government source put the debt at \$700 million.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR WED., SEPT. 12, 1984

GENERAL TENDENCIES: If you start your day with vim and vigor, you find that this well-being can carry through the day and the evening, so approach whatever is of interest to you with enthusiasm and style.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You are inspired to make new contacts and see new sites, so full-speed ahead and be open-minded for best results.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) An early start is needed if you are to go after what you desire and get it. Tonight be with your mate at some romantic place.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Being with as many allies as possible and cooperating with them brings fine results. Also a good day for adding to your friends.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Be sure to keep any promises you may have made, especially connected with business matters.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Try a new task where your work is concerned and you can become far more productive and progressive.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Listen to what allies have to say and come to a far better understanding with them. There are many opportunities for you to advance.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) If you discuss matters in a cooperative spirit with associates, you get better results than heretofore.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Get right at those duties ahead of you and they are soon out of the way. Be cooperative with co-workers.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You like to have a good time more than others, so plan your entertainments far into the future.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You get inspired with ideas that can improve your way of life considerably. Keep active both day and night and be happy.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You are thinking cleverly now so put those ideas you have to work wisely and get good results.

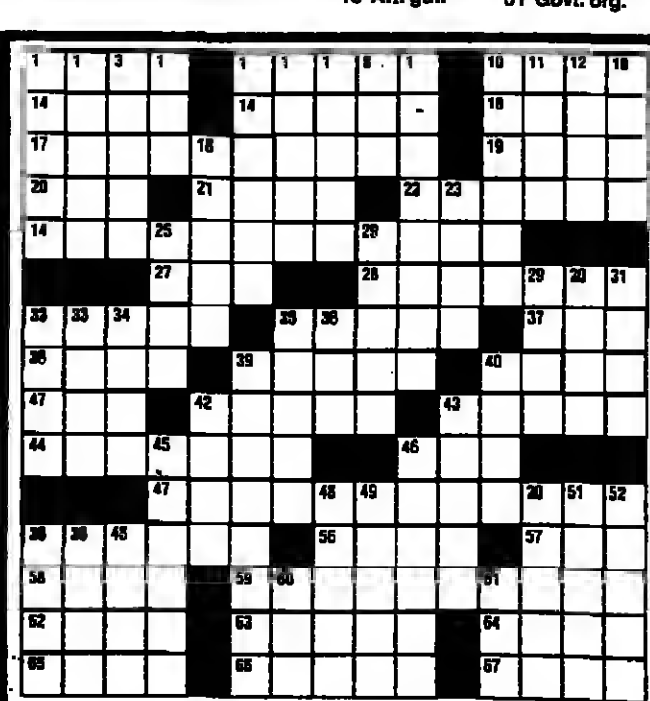
PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Get in touch with the person who can best give you ideas on how to improve your property. Ideal day to set up a better budget.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be very progressive in ideas and actions and have much success in life by sheer will power, so be sure to give as fine an education as you can. Teach early to know the difference between what is real and what is fancy. A great pioneering spirit here.

THE Daily Crossword by Louis Santrey

ACROSS	27 Sower's item?	44 Thames event	18 Homeric work
1 Ku Klux —	28 Goddess of wisdom	46 Subway unit	23 Lasta of tangle
5 Kean or Booth	32 Electrical cloth?	47 fam' terry cloth?	25 Grotzky's aim
10 Actress Miles	35 Onetime funny	53 Honeydew's kin	26 Chemical compound
14 River to the Rhine	37 Elusive one	56 Clog, for one	29 Kind of admiral
15 Broad comedy	38 Indigo source	57 A Gershwin	30 Action word
16 Gave the boot	39 Odorous, old style	58 Spirited	31 Taka sides
17 Recita nibbles?	40 Furillo or Erskine	59 Samoa dish?	32 USSR word
19 Short note	41 Vacation place	60 USSR seaport	33 — of Claves
20 Arles assent	42 Glove stuff	63 Spectral	34 Phone alert
21 Puffer	43 Bowler	64 Different	35 Driary
22 Eff		65 Asian weight	36 Blushing
24 Liaga lapins?		66 Looks for	37 Offends
		67 Fr. city	38 Large fish
			39 Oasts fare
			40 Moorish drum
			41 Throttles
			42 Rhone feeder
			43 Valentino role
			44 Author
			45 Cather
			46 Ramove
			47 Freight
			48 Shopping
			49 Met stopper
			50 Guru
			51 Female ruff
			52 Govt. org.

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:	DOWN
1 Skewered food	1 Jack of old flicks
2 Thin as —	3 — Perce
4 Drifting	5 Decree
6 Decree	7 Fidelity
8 Mo.	9 Inhibit
10 Satchel	11 Depart
12 Gambling town	13 Afr. gull



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THE BETTER HALF.

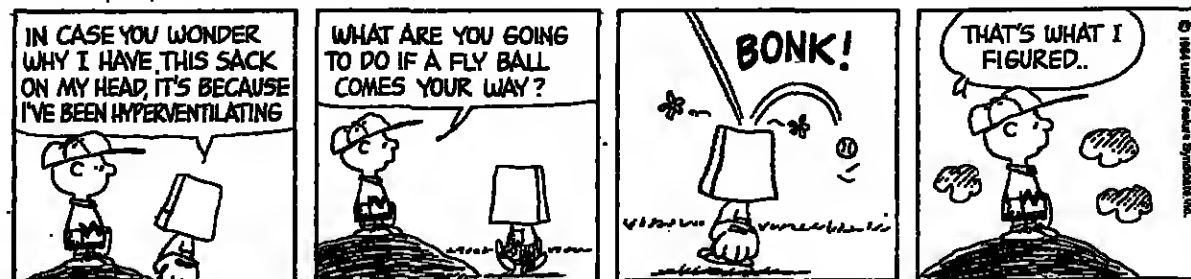
By Harris

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"They spend millions of dollars to make these commercials. I feel guilty if I don't watch!"

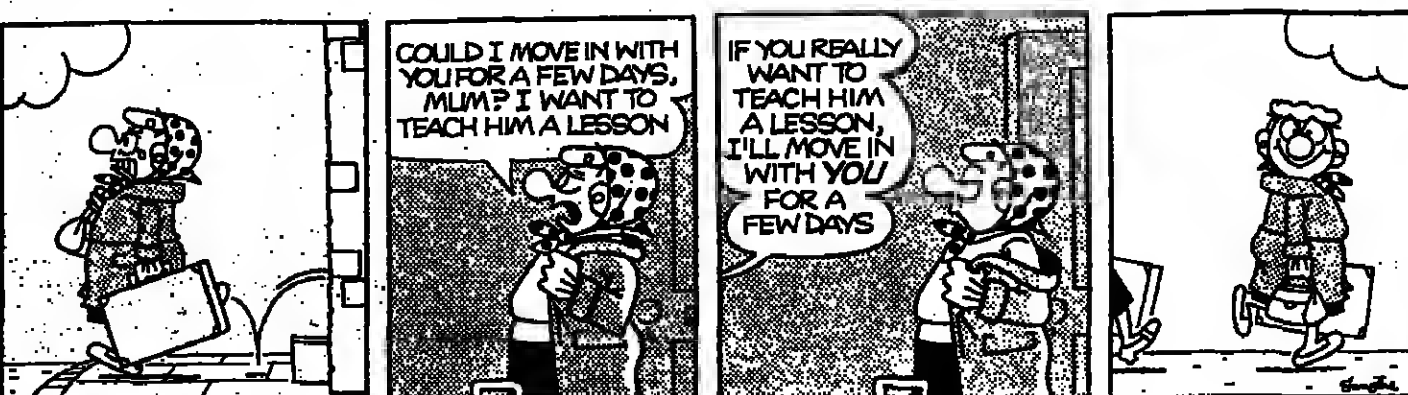
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



JUMBLE.

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

ZUZYF

LUKKS

RODAFE

ETIPE

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: THE [] OF HIS []

(Answers tomorrow)

Jumbles: BUSHY SCARY HANDED EROTIC.

Answer: What he apparently took in order to learn to drive — A "CRASH" COURSE

Stockholm conference opens 3rd session

Soviets accuse U.S. of extending arms race to outer space

STOCKHOLM (R) — The 35-nation European Disarmament Conference began its third session Tuesday with the Soviet Union renewing its attacks on U.S. foreign policy and accusing Washington of extending the arms race to outer space.

Delegates said the day's proceedings showed East and West remained as far apart as ever on how to reduce the risk of war in Europe.

Soviet Ambassador Oleg Gri-nievsky chaired the opening plenary meeting.

He said: "The U.S. desire to tilt in its favour the existing world balance of forces and the continuing deployment in some countries of Western Europe of new American missiles result in an increased danger of nuclear war."

"And now the United States plans to extend the arms race to outer space as well, making it a

huge theatre of war," he said. Western delegates described the speech as polemical and said it merely restated old Soviet positions.

Dutch Ambassador Petrus Buwalda told reporters: "If I had had any optimism about this session it would have been crushed by the Soviet statement."

The conference is effectively the only arms forum in which Moscow and Washington are still talking to each other.

It began in January with a mandate to negotiate confidence and security-building measures in

Europe but the first two sessions made no headway because of East-West disagreements on what it should be discussing.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) wants to discuss specific military measures such as notification of military manoeuvres and exchanging observers, with provision for these to be verified.

The Warsaw Pact countries favour a discussion of broader political measures such as agreements on non-use of force and non-first use of nuclear weapons.

In a clear reference to the NATO position, Mr. Gri-nievsky said some participating states were emphasising "technical military measures of secondary importance."

"At the same time they are evading businesslike consideration of the major initiatives put forward by the Soviet Union and other socialist countries," he added.

Mondale unveils plan for record tax rises

WASHINGTON (R) — In an extraordinary political gamble, Democratic presidential candidate Walter Mondale has called for record tax rises for Americans.

The increases are aimed at reducing federal budget deficits run up under President Reagan.

Mr. Mondale brought the tough issue of taxation to the forefront of the Nov. 6 election campaign Monday by unveiling his deficit-cutting proposals and challenging Mr. Reagan to divulge his own plan.

"Mr. Reagan, all my cards are on the table, face up," Mr. Mondale said at a press conference designed to demonstrate his own "fighting frizz" style of challenging the president.

"Americans are calling your hand," he said. "Let's see it and let's debate it... you can't hide your red ink (budget deficits) with blue smoke and mirrors."

The move climaxed his effort to whip up voter interests in the complex deficit issue and force Mr. Reagan to explain how he will reduce the bloated annual debt — now about \$180 billion — without raising taxes.

But the president refused to take the bait.

"That's nothing new," he said of Mr. Mondale's announcement during a brief chat with White House reporters. "He told us several weeks ago he was going to raise the people's taxes and now he's repeated it."

Mr. Reagan refused to go beyond earlier statements that he opposed tax rises and would use them only as a last resort.

Many Democrats consider it highly risky for their nominee to be proposing tax increases in an election year, but Mr. Mondale has chosen to show himself willing to make tough, unpopular decisions.

At his press conference in Phi-

ladelphia, he said that if elected he would cut projected federal deficits by two thirds, or \$77 billion, by his fourth year in office in 1989.

His plan called for \$92 billion in spending cuts plus \$85 billion in new taxes in 1989 alone.

In all, the four-year buildup in taxation — most of it to be paid by corporations and high-income Americans — would amount to the biggest proposed tax rise in U.S. history.

Lyn Nofziger, a spokesman for the Reagan reelection campaign, denounced Mr. Mondale's plan as "a recovery-killing concoction" that will create another recession, raise taxes and, in fact, increase deficits.

Poll favours Reagan

The nationwide survey for the daily newspaper USA Today, conducted before Mr. Mondale gave details of his economic programme but after he had announced he would raise taxes if elected, gave Mr. Reagan a 22 point lead compared with 18 points recorded by the same poll a month ago.

The poll also reported that Mr. Reagan was more popular among all voters except blacks. It said the number of voters with an unfavourable opinion of Mr. Mondale had increased from 43 to 51 per cent.

Mr. Mondale's plan was a risky departure from traditional American political practice. Mr. Reagan won office in 1980 on a pledge to cut taxes. Mr. Mondale is hoping to win back his support by promising to increase them.

Mr. Mondale aides said they believed their man would win votes for candour and leadership. But the Reagan camp was saying they were convinced their rival had made a major political blunder.

Reagan, Gromyko to meet on Sept. 28

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko will meet in Washington on Sept. 28 for the president's first in-depth talks with a Soviet leader, administration officials said Monday night.

The officials, who insisted on not being identified by name, said the meeting was arranged by "mutual agreement" and had been arranged even prior to a statement by Deputy Soviet Foreign Minister Georgi M. Komnenko earlier Monday that Mr. Gromyko would be willing to meet with Mr. Reagan.

Mr. Gromyko already was scheduled to meet with Secretary of State George Shultz at the United Nations on Sept. 26.

Mr. Reagan is to address the U.N. on Oct. 24 and Mr. Gromyko has been invited to come to Washington and meet the president at the White House.

An administration official did not expect any breakthroughs towards solving U.S.-Soviet problems to emerge from the meeting. He said it will be an effort "to see where we are."

However, Mr. Reagan has not had any in-depth talks with a senior Soviet leader since becoming president.

Mr. Reagan has met several times in Washington with Soviet Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin.



Pope John Paul waves to cheering crowds in Quebec where he launched a 12-day tour of Canada on Sunday (AP wirephoto)

Pope backs demands of Canadian Indians, Eskimos for more rights

MONTREAL (Agencies) — Ten thousand Canadian Indians and Eskimos cheered Pope Paul when he backed their demands for greater self-determination and confessed to blunders by missionaries who converted them to Christianity.

The Pope told crowds massed outside North America's oldest pilgrimage site: "You must be the architects of your own future, freely and responsibly."

Indians in feathered headdresses and buckskin jackets whooped with delight as the Pope added: "With reason you want to control your future, to preserve your cultural traits, to establish an educational system where your languages are respected."

Indians and Eskimos from all over the Gulf of St. Lawrence flocked to the Shrine of Saint Anne for their first view of the pontiff. They presented him with gifts of beaver pelts, caribou hide boots and Indian carvings.

The Pope, who greeted the crowds in six Indian languages, also told them there had been blunders in the way Christianity had been introduced to the Indians by early Anglo-French missionaries.

Police said up to 350,000 people were expected to see the Pope on Tuesday in Montreal, where security has been tight since a bomb blast killed three Parisian tourists at the railway station last week. Rail officials received letters threatening the pontiff.

Security is so tight during the Pope's tour of Canada that police are even frisking nuns.

At Quebec airport, photographers had to shoot film to prove their cameras were not concealing guns or explosives. Police searched nuns going into the archbishop's residence in Quebec.

A reporter covering the Pope's weekend visit to Quebec cathedral had to have a police escort to go to the lavatory. When he left the cubicle, the officer checked the cistern for explosives.

No detail is too insignificant for the 27,000 officers in Canada's biggest security operation since Quebec separatists launched a wave of bombings and kid-

nappings in the 1960s.

Police are welding manhole covers along routes being taken by the bullet-proof popemobile. Mailboxes, once a favourite bomb target for Quebec separatists, are also being removed.

Security men, guns bulging under their jackets, ride on the popemobile.

Just before the Pope arrived in Quebec's Cathedral square, a police truck rumbled past carrying a huge cauldron-like container on the back.

"That's for putting bombs in," a police officer explained.

Police, reporters and apparently the Pope himself were jolted on Sunday at the start of his 12-day tour.

Just as he went on his knees to kiss the ground at Quebec airport, a heart-stopping shout boomed out across the tarmac.

It was the start of a 21-gun salute, but even the Pope looked surprised by the sudden roar. One Vatican official called the salvo "rather poor taste for a man of peace."

Ceausescu will visit Bonn as planned, Romania says

BONN (AP) — Disregarding signs of mounting Soviet pressure against overtures to the West, Romania has said that President Nicolae Ceausescu will visit Bonn next month as planned.

"It is clear that Mr. Ceausescu will make his visit. We are not interested in what other countries do," Romanian embassy spokesman Ion Crecu told reporters the day after Bulgarian President Todor Zhivkov postponed indefinitely a visit to Bonn.

Mr. Ceausescu's visit is scheduled for Oct. 15-19. Although both Bulgaria and East Germany described their leaders' visits as postponed rather than cancelled, no new dates were proposed.

The announcement by Mr. Zhivkov, the longest ruling Communist Party leader in the Soviet bloc, followed the sudden cancellation of a long-awaited visit by East German leader Erich Hon-

ecker.

In West Berlin, Chancellor Helmut Kohl said Mr. Zhivkov's indefinite postponement of his Sept. 20 visit was directly related to "the current internal situation in the East bloc."

"Right now, no one in the West knows what is happening in Moscow," Dr. Kohl told reporters at a political meeting.

The West German government was particularly stung by Mr. Hon-ecker's cancellation since the visit would have been the first to West Germany by an East German head of state and a major step towards improving East-West ties despite the chill in U.S.-Soviet relations.

Like East Germany, Bulgaria has traditionally been one of the Soviet Union's staunchest supporters on all foreign policy issues. But both trade extensively with West Germany.

Crucial vote postponed in Indian state assembly

HYDERABAD, India (R) — India's Andhra Pradesh state assembly was adjourned amid angry protests Tuesday after meeting for only a few minutes and without a crucial vote on the political future of ousted Chief Minister N.T. Rama Rao.

The showdown vote was postponed, delaying Mr. Rama Rao's plans to demonstrate that he still had support and stage a political comeback in a city still tense after nine people died in clashes at the weekend.

His followers protested loudly and a small fire was hastily extinguished in the assembly as its speaker, M. Baga Reddy, announced the adjournment.

Eye-witnesses said a handkerchief or cloth caught fire but was promptly doused with a fire-extinguisher. No damage or injuries occurred, they said.

Mr. Rama Rao was himself escorted by police through a tight cordon of paramilitary troops to the assembly hall early Tuesday morning.

The former film star, still recovering from recent heart surgery in the United States, was accompanied by his personal physician.

26 Tamils found killed in Jaffna

NEW DELHI (Agencies) — The bullet-riddled bodies of 26 Tamil youths, believed to have been passengers on a bus allegedly hijacked by soldiers in retaliation for a separatist attack, were reported found Tuesday in northern Sri Lanka, the United News of India said.

The news agency quoted unidentified informed sources as reporting that "some men in army uniform" hijacked the bus Monday near the town of Vavuniya, in the troubled Jaffna province, to revenge a rebel ambush of an army patrol.

Sri Lanka's state-run radio reported Tuesday that Tamil separatist activists planted a land mine on a road about 20 kilometres from Vavuniya in the ambush, killing nine soldiers, UNI reported in a Colombo-dated dispatch.

The radio was quoted as reporting that other soldiers opened fire and killed 10 rebels.

UNI said the alleged army men stopped the bus, which was carrying an estimated 50 passengers from Colombo to Jaffna, the provincial capital, and diverted it to an undisclosed location.

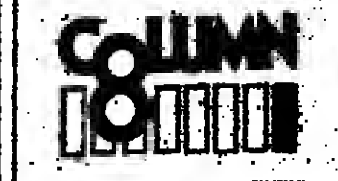
The bus was later found damaged but 26 people described as passengers, most of whom were young people, were found dead at two locations with their bodies riddled with bullets, according to the news agency.

It said six people were hospitalised with gunshot wounds. The other passengers were not found immediately, it added.

District officials in Vavuniya have begun investigating the incident, the news agency said.

Sri Lanka's national security minister said Tuesday the island's security forces would adopt new tactics to counter land mines set by the rebels in the northern province.

The minister, Lalith Athulathandeni, confirmed that nine soldiers were killed by rebels.



Bani-Sadr forced to change house

PARIS (R) — Anxious parents, fearing that their children could be caught up in an attack on exiled former Iranian President Abol Hassan Bani-Sadr, have persuaded him to move house for the second time in two weeks, local French officials said Tuesday.

The heavily guarded exile, whose most recent residence in Versailles, west of Paris, was next to a private Roman Catholic school, agreed on Saturday to move following protest by parents, the officials said. They said that Mr. Bani-Sadr would move to another residence in Versailles on Thursday.

He had moved in from Cachan, an eastern suburb of Paris, on Aug. 30 because he felt he was no longer safe, they added.

Reagan assures Casey of CIA post

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Ronald Reagan has assured Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) Director William J. Casey he is welcome to stay on as chief of the spy agency if Mr. Reagan is reelected, the Washington Post reported in Tuesday editions.

The newspaper said Mr. Reagan telephoned Mr. Casey last week to give the assurance after the intelligence director complained in a letter about newspaper reports appearing to originate in the White House that he was prepared to leave his post. Mr. Casey said in his letter that he does not want to leave the CIA, the Post said. It said the letter indicated indirectly that Mr. Casey wants to continue as head of the agency.

Mother charged for marrying own son

CHARLOTTE, Tennessee (AP) — A woman has been arrested and charged with incest after it was discovered she was married for six years to her son, whom she gave up for adoption 23 years ago, authorities said Monday.

Mary Ann Garton Bass, 43, was arrested and charged Saturday for marrying her son, Danny James Bass, in 1978. If convicted she faces a maximum penalty of 21 years in prison. Mr. Bass, 26, only recently discovered he married his natural mother, said Dan Cook, assistant district attorney general.

Mr. Bass gave her son to an uncle, Horace Sullivan, when he was 3 years old, investigators said. The two met again when Mr. Bass was looking for his biological parents. They married shortly after, Mr. Cook said. Mrs. Bass never told her son that she was his mother, he said. Mrs. Bass was free on a \$5,000 bond.

U.S. to mark massacre day

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. House of Representatives on Monday passed by voice vote a resolution designating April 24, 1985 as "National Day of Remembrance of Man's Inhumanity to Man" and in particular recalling the Armenian massacre.

Resolution proponents said April 24 marks the 70th anniversary of the start of an eight-year genocide campaign in Turkey during which they contend 1.5 million people of Armenian ancestry were killed.

The Turkish government denies the claim, saying several hundred thousand Armenians perished during World War I in a civil war when they sided with invading Russian troops against the Turks.

The resolution calls upon the president to issue a proclamation urging the American people to observe the day as a time to remember all genocide victims.

Mental patients flee asylum

NEW DELHI (R) — Nearly 100 psychiatric patients are missing after a mass breakout from a hospital in central India, the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency reported Tuesday. PTI said 94 out of 460 patients who fled remote Kanka Mental Hospital in the central state of Bihar during a wardens' strike on Sept. 5 were still at large.

Several Indian newspapers carried reports Tuesday on the escape and conditions at the Kanka hospital. In a front-page article headlined "Shocking State of Asylum," the Times of India said it was surprising not all of the hospital's 1,451 patients escaped when wardens went on strike over low pay.

GOREN BRIDGE

ST CHARLES GOREN
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100 PERCENT IS A GOOD BET

North-South vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
♠ J1086
♥ A
♦ A2
♣ KJ10953

WEST
♥ 9432
♦ 9853
♣ KQ843
♠ Void

EAST
♠ 7
♥ KQJ107
♦ J1098
♣ 876

SOUTH
♠ AKQ5
♥ 842
♦ 75
♣ AQ42

The bidding:
North East South West
1♠ 1♥ 1♠ 3♥
4♥ Pass 5♥ Pass
6♥ Pass 7♥ Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of ♣.

When you have a sure line for your contract, why adopt any other? If this advice sounds insane, consider how many points are thrown away each year by players who don't seem to understand this, precept.

North-South bid well to so excellent grand slam. When North jumped to six spades after South's five club cue-bid, South realized his partner surely had both red aces and the king of clubs. North could

hardly have bid so aggressively without those cards, since he did not have a high spade. And since the bidding had marked North with a singleton heart, the grand slam seemed a good bet.

West led the king of diamonds, taken by dummy's ace. Declarer by reflex cashed the jack and queen of trumps, but when East showed out on the second round of trumps, the contract could no longer be made.

Declarer could get two discards only on clubs, so he needed to ruff a heart for his 13th trick. He cashed the ace of hearts, returned to his hand with a trump and ruffed a heart, but now the only entry to his hand to draw the last trump was a club. West ruffed, and the defenders rubbed salt into the wound by collecting a diamond and a heart trick for down three!

Two rounds of trumps was just one round too many. After winning the ace of diamonds, declarer should cash only the jack of trumps before clearing the ace of hearts from dummy. Now declarer can get back to his hand with the a trump to ruff a heart on the board, and there is still another trump in dummy to permit declarer to reenter his hand to draw the outstanding trumps.

The 4-1 trump break was unfortunate. However, the correct line insures the contract against anything but a 5-0 split.

'Marcos trying to change probe results of Aquino assassination'

MANILA, Philippines (Agencies) — The lawyer for slain alleged assassin Rolando Gahan has charged that President Ferdinand E. Marcos was trying to block a fact-finding board from accusing soldiers of assassinating Mr. Marcos' chief rival.

A board official said, however, that "no quarter has exerted pressure on anyone."

The claim of presidential interference came in a document filed by attorney Lupino Lazaro with the board investigating the Aug. 21, 1983 assassination of former Senator Benigno Aquino.

Mr. Aquino was shot as soldiers escorted him off a plane which brought him home from three years of voluntary exile in the United States.

Mr. Lazaro, who represented Mr. Gahan's family during the board's 10-month probe, urged the five-member body to disregard a memorandum filed by Justice Manuel Lazaro, Mr. Marcos's legal affairs assistant. The two men are not related.

Attorney Lazaro said Justice Lazaro's report, which has not been made public, urges the board to confirm the military version of the killing — that Mr. Gahan killed Mr. Aquino and then was himself killed by soldiers. The attorney maintains Mr. Gahan was a "fall guy" for the military.

The lawyer said the recommendation was, in effect, a pre-

sidential instruction to the board which Mr. Marcos appointed. He said in an interview that he believed two U.S. newspaper reports, which quoted board members as accusing the military of involvement to be accurate.

"If the findings are not reversed through pressure, I believe the board's findings will be welcomed by the public," he said.

Meanwhile, the government news agency quoted board member Ernesto Herrera as saying it would be "impossible" for any board member to reveal the board's findings.

"Any report that the board has finished its task is misleading and erroneous," he was quoted as saying from his residence in the central Philippines city of Cebu.

Mr. Herrera was responding to a San Francisco examiner story quoting board member Dante Santos as saying, "the military is involved, no question."

Earlier, a story in the San Jose Mercury News quoted an unnamed board member saying the board would accuse armed forces chief Gen. Fabian C. Ver of ordering Mr. Aquino's killing.

Bluenido Tan, the board's public coordinator, said the board could not accuse Gen. Ver unless it had proof "because the man's reputation is at stake." No testimony directly implicating Gen. Ver was revealed in the public hearings.

23 killed in attacks

Meanwhile, a total of 23 people were reported killed in guerrilla attacks in the central and southern Philippines on Monday.

A military spokesman in Manila said 11 people, including five policemen and three militiamen, were killed in an ambush near Kidapawan, central Mindanao.

Two of the 60 attackers, believed to be members of the Communist New People's Army (NPA), also died.

At least eight people were reported to have been killed when suspected guerrillas of the secessionist Moro National Liberation Front raided a house in Lanao del Sur province, northwest Mindanao, the Philippines News Agency said.

Marcos marks birthday

In Manila, President Marcos marked his 67th birthday Tuesday by inaugurating three power plants and an overhead railway while opposition groups marched to the home town of Mr. Aquino.

Mr. Marcos switched on two geothermal plants in Laguna province, 80 kilometres east of Manila.

The president and his wife, Imelda, also went for a ride on the first state of a Belgian-built elevated railway system, expected to go into full operation by the end of next year.

S. African protesters burn cars, set fire to beer halls

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Demonstrators burnt beer halls and stoned cars Monday night in troubled black South African townships where about 40 people have died in protests against the white minority rule in the past fortnight.

Police spokesmen in Pretoria said a black man was killed by a civilian Monday when he tried to set fire to a shop and a man was injured when police used teargas.

And rubber bullets to disperse angry demonstrators in Khateleng, east of Johannesburg.

Later protesters stoned a police vehicle, attacked a private car, looted and set fire to a delivery van and set fire to three beer halls and a shop in the township where police had earlier reported attacks on three other vehicles.

In Wattville, on the outskirts of Johannesburg, the driver of a postal van was hurt when it was stoned and set on fire.

The unrest spread Monday to Johannesburg's satellite city of Soweto, South Africa's biggest township housing up to two million people. A school and two delivery vans were attacked there, police said.

Political analysts have blamed

the unrest on "widespread discontent over living conditions" and said violence has often been aimed at black councillors seen by opponents of South Africa's racial segregation policies as government stooges.

Seven people had been reported dead in six days of township unrest before rioting reached a peak a week ago in Sharpeville — scene of a 1960 massacre when police shot dead 69 blacks during a demonstration.

The official death toll in a single day of rioting last Monday, centred on Sharpeville, 50 kilometres south of Johannesburg, was finally put at nearly 30, and further violence has been reported every day since then.

On Monday, a black journalists' union, the Media Workers' Association of South Africa, issued a statement demanding the release of some of its members who it said had been detained in Sharpeville at the weekend.

A Pretoria police spokesman confirmed that three black journalists had been arrested on Saturday but could not say immediately whether they were still being held.